

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

September 10, 2015

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 10, 2015 in the Town Hall conference room.

Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Helen Gallagher, Terry Lent, and Gary Mummert were in attendance. George Buck, Mark Spellmann, and Dave Winslow were not in attendance. Mark Spellmann arrived at 7:02.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015 regular meeting as amended. Gary Mummert seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Cynthia Stevens read a press release from Bethel Arts. Photographer Elisabeth Levy's exhibition "Candlewood Kiss: An Alternative View of a Beloved Lake" will be at Bethel Artspace, 91 Greenwood Ave., Bethel, through October 17th. Larry Marsicano will be speaking at the opening reception on September 12th at 4:00 p.m.
- After some bills are paid, \$1311 will be left in the budget
- Darlene Anderson-Alexander resigned as Secretary, effective this meeting. The position has been posted by Human Resources.

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

- Ball Pond town park
 - Mark Spellman consulted with a local mason who said the wall isn't worth repairing because it was constructed without a footing.
 - Cynthia Stevens will ask another mason for his opinion; Terry Lent knows someone whom she will ask as well.
 - Cynthia Stevens reminded the group that the wall is necessary for run-off management. Gary Mummert suggested that that may be one reason there were no footings; footings could interfere with the run-off.
 - Mark Spellmann suggested finding out how much it would cost to replace the wall.
 - Gary Mummert reported that the milkweed plants at the Park (about 8) should do okay by next spring. They were planted late this year.
 - Friends of Ball Pond hired someone to clean the park of goose droppings; Mark Spellmann will ask him to water the garden as well
 - Gary Mummert asked about the need for a garbage can since there is someone maintaining the space. Consensus was to watch it and see if there's a need for one next summer.
- Weed removal
 - Work should be done in the spring.

- There is a lot of phragmite on the north end; it is an invasive species that spreads quickly and takes five years to eradicate it totally.
- A homeowner is reportedly thinking about putting in a beach; Cynthia Stevens is monitoring the situation and has been in contact with Tim Simpkins.
- Gary Mummert said contractors made three paths through the weeds roughly in between Hudson and Satterlee; He wanted to know if anyone noticed the difference.
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that when the strategy was used on the north end, it helped.
- Invasive plants
 - Loosestrife is more prevalent again.
 - Biological control using beetles was effective in the past. The State is not providing the beetles anymore (need an import permit to bring here from New Jersey)
- Cynthia Stevens entertained a motion to add Carp Study to the agenda under Old Business. Helen Gallagher made the said motion. Terry Lent seconded the motion.
 - Vote 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)
- Carp study update
 - At the August meeting, it was reported that Mark June-Wells noted several glitches in the data. A plan of action was necessary.
 - Mark June-Wells' biggest concern is that the paper won't be accepted by some of the more rigorous scientific journals but a second tier would likely publish it.
 - The decision was to write two articles – one for professionals written by Mark June-Wells; the other more readable for lay lake management folks to be written by Cynthia Stevens.
 - There are good data and a narrative to write about and share.
 - Mark June-Wells has said to look for a draft in November.

New Business:

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.; Mark Spellmann seconded the motion.
 - Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary