

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

January 8, 2015

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 in the Town Hall conference room.

Vice Chairman Gary Mummert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also in attendance. Mark Spellmann arrived at 7:02. Cynthia Stevens was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2014 regular meeting. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

Public Comment:

Old Business:

- 2015-2016 Budget
 - some modifications were made to the draft budget proposed by Cynthia Stevens via Gary Mummert (notably, remove \$700 from the diver line since there was no significant difference in the June and July surveys and add \$700 to weed control)
 - Mark Spellmann asked that Gary Mummert prepare a justification for any changes in line item amounts and include it with the budget proposal to show the thought process involved.
 - Gary Mummert will be meeting with the Finance Department in the near future. Terry Lent and Helen Gallagher will accompany him; Mark Spellmann will attempt to attend as well.
 - Gary Mummert entertained a motion to submit the budget as presented (total of \$8021) along with the justification document. Mark Spellmann made the said motion. Terry Lent seconded the motion; all in favor
- Status of Grant Application
 - The paperwork goes to the Selectmen in January
 - Data crunching will begin once it is approved by the Selectmen

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

New Business:

- Items from recent Wetlands Commission meeting related to 146 Ball Pond Road and Aquarian Plans at Gillotti Wellfield
 - It seems important that the Inland Wetlands agendas and minutes are monitored by a Ball Pond Advisory Committee member for items affecting Ball Pond. Gary Mummert asked for a volunteer to take on that responsibility. That decision will be tabled to a future meeting.
 - 146 Ball Pond Road
 - Stone walls for flowerbeds are being built into the lake

- The Inland/Wetlands Commission acknowledges that it is not acceptable to build out into the lake; there is a “stop work order” on the project
- Aquarian plans to replace the current water storage structure at the Gillotti Wellfield with a much larger one
- Concern about issues at 148 Ball Pond Road
 - There is a question about the effectiveness of the silt fence. Erosion related to the movement of boulders could cause a water quality issue. Gary Mummert said that Cynthia Stevens reported that Tim Simpkins is monitoring the situation.
- Proposal for Charity Event at Ball Pond
 - The Committee was asked to discuss the proposal submitted by resident Scott Andreozzi for the “1st Annual Linda Fidaleo Memorial Ball Pond Regatta”, a fundraiser to take place on Ball Pond in the fall of 2015.
 - After considerable discussion, the consensus of the group is that there are concerns around liability, porta potties, parking, and the zebra mussel threat. The idea was raised that Squantz Pond may be a better venue for this type of event. It also is likely that the State would have to approve the use of the State Boat Launch. George Buck offered to generate a formal response from the Ball Pond Advisory Committee should that become necessary. (Mark Spellmann left at 8:04)
- Discussion of Dredging
 - This was in response to interest that Mark Spellmann showed at a recent meeting in dredging the south end of the pond
 - Cynthia Stevens gave Gary Mummert an estimate of \$80,000 for just the north end (historic data)
 - Questions were raised around who would pay for it? (Town? Grants? Fundraiser?)
 - George Buck has extensive experience in this area since he successfully dredged his pond many years ago. It is a complicated process not without controversy.
 - The group consensus is that dredging is probably not feasible at this time.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Helen Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at p.m.; Terry Lent seconded the motion.
Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary