

Ball Pond Advisory Committee Meeting
March 3, 2020
Town Hall Conference Room
7 pm

Next meeting: April 7, 2020 at 7 pm (may be moved to 5:30 pm)

Committee Members present: Mark Spellmann (Vice Chair), Julian Laemmerhirt (Chair), Monica Santos, Pete Viola, Jim Mellett and Gary Mummert

Call to Order:

Julian Laemmerhirt called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

Approval of Minutes:

Pete Viola made a motion to accept the Minutes of February 4, 2020. Mark Spellmann seconded.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion passed)

Public Comment:

None

Gary Mummert made a motion to add to the agenda Outstanding Issues at Ball Pond. Pete Viola seconded.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion passed)

NEW BUSINESS:

BPAC Stationery and Letterhead

Mark Spellmann made a motion to budget \$470 for BPAC stationery and envelopes from Barron Printing. Jim Mellett seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion passed)

Newsletter

Jim Mellett circulated his latest version of the article *The Life Cycle of Lakes* for the committee's review. Mark Spellmann made a few small suggestions regarding wording and headers for easy reading. He sent the revisions to Jim. **Action items: Jim will shrink the largest photo and send the revised document to Lisa to have printed on BPAC letterhead. Lisa will obtain a quote from Barron printing for 500 black and white, duplex printed copies of the newsletter on BPAC stationery and stuffing of 500 envelopes. Mark will then take the stuffed envelopes to the post office where they will print labels, affix stamps and mail. Julian will issue a purchase order for Barron printing. Mark will have Friends of Ball Pond pay the post office upfront and have them reimbursed by BPAC afterwards.**

Road Salt Impact on Ball Pond

Jim wrote a letter to State Representative Ken Gucker and Senator Julie Kushner. It was read for the record in Hartford. **Action Item: Jim will share the article he has on road salt that was written in 2009 that said by 2025 ground water will approach that of saltwater.**

Dock Floating at north end of pond

There is a dock floating at the north end of the pond. No one knows who it belongs to.

Outstanding Issues at Ball Pond

Gary said he needs to speak with Russ Loudon of the town's Public Works Department on some outstanding issues:

1. BPAC was promised the retention ponds along the driveway entering into the boat launch area would be cleaned over winter. They have not been done yet. The retention ponds filter sediment from the development and road from entering the pond.
2. Signs for the town beach have been ordered that warn people there are no lifeguards on duty, so swim at your own risk. Gary wants to confirm Public Works will install the signs before it gets warm out.
3. The guard rails by the town beach that were damaged by a car prior to the microburst have still not been repaired by the State. The guard rails protect the standpipe for fire fighters.
4. Gary had requested round stones (not jagged) for the town beach by Route 39 where there is rip rap with asphalt. The larger rocks there now are difficult to walk on. He is looking to have smaller rocks installed.
5. Two boats had been removed that were on town property at the town beach. Now there is a new one. It is on the ground by the fence, but on town property.
6. There are large rocks in the water by the creek at the Ball Pond outlet from Ball Pond to Ball Pond East. They restrict water flow. The contractor was supposed to remove them. They are still there.
7. A boy scout will be working at Hahlawah Preserve. More chips will be put down. The New Fairfield Land Trust may be hosting music there this summer.

Other Open Issues:

1. There is a swale on Ball Pond East that is of concern to a neighbor there. In June of 2019, some BPAC members went and looked at the swale. It was functioning properly. The question is who is responsible for maintaining it. There is no association in the development there. There is a biofilter that needs to be routinely cleaned out. It catches sand and other build up. Gary will speak with Tim Simpkins of the town's Health Department to see if he knows whose responsibility it is to maintain.
2. Gary and Jim will plant clover at the town beach.
3. Julian asked who cleans the brook by The Land Trust property. Gary said the town is responsible for the grate only. The brook, which borders a private property owner and the Land Trust share responsibility. Gary has cleaned it of debris, leaves and trash. If the grate backs up one foot, then Ball Pond backs up.
4. Mark would like to have Tim Simpkins come to our next meeting to discuss the procedure for water testing. The meeting time, if he is available, would be changed to 5:30 pm. **Action Item: Pete will check with Tim on his available. Lisa would need to file a Special meeting time.**

The next meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Arasim

Lisa Arasim, Recording Secretary, Ball Pond Advisory Committee