

**Ball Pond Advisory Committee**  
**Special Monthly Meeting (*Virtual*)**  
October 6, 2020  
7 PM  
Minutes

In attendance: Mark Spellmann, Elissa Johnson, Pete Viola, Julian Laemmerhirt (Chair), Monica Santos and George Buck. Absent: Jim Mellett

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**Call the Meeting to Order**

- Julian called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

**Approval of Minutes from September 8**

- Pete Viola made a motion to accept the Minutes from September 8, 2020
- Elissa Johnson seconded the motion

**Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion passed unanimously)**

**Public Comment**

- None

**Correspondence**

- None

**OLD ITEMS:**

**Removal of yellow irises**

- Elissa updated the committee that she and her son removed the irises they saw by Hahlawah Preserve. She also observed them along the shoreline by the boat launch. She is hoping to have easier access to them when BPAC has a boat.
- Mark removed his from his own property.

**Boat for BPAC**

- Julian reviewed the boat and accessories that will be ordered for BPAC, which comes in under the \$1200 budget. Those include:
  - A Pelican Jon boat (127-lbs) that holds two people at 420-LB capacity for \$650 from Bass Pro Shops.
  - Wooden oars with stays for \$130, 15-LB anchor with 100' line for \$55, 30" BPAC decal for \$26, from Amazon.
  - Vests will also be needed.
  - George has a couple of life vests he can donate.
  - Elissa has an anchor that may be used. She will bring it to Julian's so he can inspect it.
  - The order would be placed by Friends of Ball Pond to expedite the process. The town will reimburse.

- **Water sampling**
    - The new water sampling equipment will be used on October 15 by George and Tim Simpkins
    - George is using his boat and has an extra one for any BPAC members that would like to join them
  - **Science at Night Regional Lake Communities Symposium**
    - Hosted by The WCSU Integrative Biological Diversity graduate program, the free symposium featured a panel discussion with representatives from Candlewood Lake Authority, Lake Housatonic, Ball Pond, Lake Zoar, Lake Lillinonah, Lake Waubeeka and others.
    - Elissa and George attended the first virtual panel discussion on September 28.
    - Each representative spoke for (7) minutes. George spoke about three Ball Pond challenges: Lack of weeds, invasive plants like water lilies and purple loosestrife, and water sampling
    - Elissa was surprised at how other lakes used chemicals, although some are using less.
    - Elissa said a lake community in South Carolina discussed their use of carp.
    - George believes there are more planned symposiums and will share future dates with committee members.
  - **Zebra Mussels**
    - Elissa mentioned that when Tim Simpkins attended BPAC's August meeting, he said the water quality in Ball Pond was in the range for zebra mussels. She suggested monitoring Ball Pond by simply having bricks and rope hung from docks.
    - Mark said he would be happy to from his own dock. However, he is unsure what BPAC would be able to do about zebra mussels if they are found.
  - **Weeds**
    - Mark, who paddles and swims in Ball Pond, saw coontail and some milfoil in the shallows of the north end.
    - George said they are in the shallow water at the boat launch. They don't grow far out.
    - Elissa would like to see the weed data.
    - George said none was collected in 2020 because of a lack of weeds, but the data has been put together in the past by George Benson. He believes Tim Simpkins would have it.
    - Mark will ask Tim Simpkins for the previous reports, which were put together for the carp study BPAC did.
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#### **Adjournment**

- Mark made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm
- Elissa seconded the motion.

**Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion passed unanimously)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Arasim

Recording Secretary

*Lisa Arasim*