

**BEACON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING**

Toby's Pond

April 12, 2012

MINUTES

(Draft Copy-Subject to Revision)

G. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge to the Flag.

Present: First Selectman G. Smith, Selectman D. D'Amico

Also Present: D. Sorrentino, R. Minnick, S. Knapick, J. Smith, Mr. Swan, C. Edwards and Doralie D'Amico

G. Smith began the meeting explaining that this meeting is about Toby's Pond and he turned the meeting floor over to R. Minnick

R. Minnick explained that the he would like to get some parking signs up and in place by the time they have the airplane rides. He noted that other contractors including C. Edwards and Mr. Swan will be discussing Toby's Pond as well.

G. Smith asked about the signs and if they would have green back round made by Flash Signs. The answer was yes and R. Minnick described the signs a bit more. He discussed where the signs should be placed and how they should look. He noted that he found some very good priced signs on the internet explaining that the internet signs were \$17 as

compared to \$35 – he further explained the pricing and what they would look like. His explanation continued regarding his price comparisons. He also noted that the Scouts suggested that they would like the signs to be in wood and R. Minnick noted that he likes that, as did G. Smith.

J. Smith explained that cedars will last a lot longer than a pressure treated 4 X 4 in the ground (noting it's a bit more work).

The discussion continued regarding what wood would rot and what wood would stand up and also what would be safer.

J. Smith explained that when dealing with Oxford Hardware, they don't try and make a fortune.

It was noted that they would need 31 bags of cement at \$5 each (\$155 tops) – this with the signs would be approx. \$1658.

G. Smith asked about the fishing regulations and the signs and where they signs would go. R. Minnick explained that one will go where it is now, another down part way and another further down.

A discussion continued regarding fishing regulations with G. Smith noting that he would like to see one before you go over the ridge so that no one can say they didn't see the sign.

R. Minnick agreed. He explained that he would like to place the order all at once.

The discussion continued regarding where the signs will be positioned.

R. Minnick explained that the Scouts have committed to 4 Eagle Scouts projects and one of them would be a little kiosk. He explained that one of the signs will go on the kiosk. The discussion continued regarding what the Eagle Scouts will be doing.

It was noted that the Boy Scouts have asked if they could camp down there. It was agreed that “absolutely” they can camp down there.

C. Edwards noted that they have do something about the stumps that the beavers chewed off noting they are like spears and that you can’t go in there with a tractor as you will get a flat. He said that is a priority.

C. Smith noted that he thought they were only on the railroad tracks – it was noted that they are all around the park. It was noted that they would like to address some of this in this package.

R. Minnick described what he would need including seed and herbicide and he also needs some prices for the riverside.

J. Smith explained that depending on what they want to cross on the bridge (i.e., pedestrians or vehicles) will determine what they will need. More will be needed for motor vehicles.

C. Edwards suggested making it the width for a pick-up. The discussion continued – J. Smith noted that the planking will be approximately \$4500 for people and up to \$6500 for vehicles noting that the steel is being donated by O & G. It was noted that it would be about \$7500 to get a bridge that would carry vehicles.

The discussion continued regarding access on the bridges. G. Smith noted that he likes the idea of a pick-up truck being able to pass.

It was noted that they have to consider emergency access. It was pointed out there’s a locked box key on the gates along the railroad track but there are still restrictions of what you can and cannot do.

It was noted that metro north (even though they don’t own the property) controls DOT decisions in this area noting that the DOT is trying to work with them.

J. Smith noted that because they will be building a bridge with people walking over it and driving over it, people are going to ask who designed it therefore they will need some stamped approval. G. Smith noted that he will request that from J. Galligan.

The discussion continued.

The conversation continued regarding piping. It was noted that if it could be piped from the structure down to where they will discharge with a flared end would be easier and more cost effective.

R. Minnick noted he will go back to Wetlands and let them know they have changed the design as everyone seemed to like the “pipe” idea much better.

A discussion continued regarding where the ponds discharged.

It was noted that they won’t need any engineering just wetlands.

A discussion continued regarding the legal interpretation of how the property is bounded and who is responsible for maintenance of the flat area.

It was determined that they need to find out what the expenses would be and then go forward.

G. Smith explained that for this particular meeting, they are there to approve an amount of money for this project.

C. Edwards noted that \$2500 in the budget for equipment and they are good.

A discussion continued regarding the equipment they could use for this project.

It was noted that a skid-steer with attachments would work.

A discussion continued regarding amount that would be needed for rental equipment. It was noted that the project would be approximately \$5,000. G. Smith suggested they request the amount they would need \$4658.

A discussion continued regarding the cost of fuel and transportation.

G. Smith summarized all the requests:

\$3000 equipment rentals
\$1658 for signs and cement

Total \$4658 – to come from the money budgeted (\$41,000 reserved from the account/agreement).

\$4658 would be all they would need for now.

J. Smith asked if there was some unforeseen problem would they have another meeting. The answer was yes.

J. Smith noted they have to find out the sizing and costs of the pipes and come back with a firm number.

D. D'Amico motioned to approve that \$4,658 be moved from the special Toby's Pond maintenance account. G. Smith 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

D. D'Amico motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 P.M. G. Smith 2nd the motion. All voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lauren Classey
Clerk for the Board of Selectmen