

# Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

## MEETING NOTES

Date: December 9, 2008

Members Chris Ashley Tom Gormley  
Present: Bob Blanck Bill Johnson  
Nick Browse Jeff Ritter

Others David Cruise  
Present:

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A quorum being present, Mr. Ritter called the meeting to order at 7:30AM.

### Secretary's Report - Mr. Browse

1. Minutes of the meeting of October 22, 2008 were reviewed and approved.

### Treasurer's Report - Mr. Johnson

1. Mr. Johnson reported the following fund balances:
  - \$ 31,919.16 Annual committee budget account (initial balance \$33,500)
  - \$ 10,997.16 Pump project reimbursables account
  - \$ 926.66 Gift account
  - \$ 478.37 Gift account
2. Our Community Preservation funding request for \$79K for the stormwater management project was made at the recent CPC meeting by Mr. Johnson and Mr. Browse, and was well received. We expect it to be approved (subject to town meeting approval) and to be funded out of reserve funds, which will make the monies available immediately after town meeting.
3. In advance of the meeting, Mr. Johnson circulated a proposed budget request for the 2010 town budget. The proposed budget was approved; Mr. Johnson will submit it to the town.

### Planned Work at 12 Cove Road

1. David Cruise presented plans for work he and his wife are intending for 12 Cove Road. This work has been discussed with (though not approved by) the Conservation Commission and Building Inspector.

2. The proposed work appears to show sensitivity to viewshed issues, which have recently been a concern for work at other properties on the pond, and also to management of runoff, by means of a retention basin and other structures. We feel such work is commendable, though we are not a regulatory body and so cannot formally approve or disapprove the proposed work. We noted that when the Conservation Commission asks for our comments on proposed work at the pond, our concerns generally surround management of runoff, protection of the existing views from the pond, and restrictions on the use of phosphorus-containing fertilizers.
3. The proposed plans appear to show work outside a 75-foot buffer zone from the edge of the pond. We question whether 75' is the correct width of this zone.
4. Mr. Cruise anticipates a hearing at the next Conservation Commission meeting on December 18; we will attempt to have a member of the Pond Committee there.
5. Following Mr. Cruise's presentation, the committee discussed its role in evaluating such proposals. Not being a regulatory body, we feel uncomfortable with such review, though we recognize the benefit of input into the process. It was suggested that we consider sponsoring the development of a pond overlay zoning district, wherein our concerns (runoff management, control of fertilizer use, etc.) could be made part of the town bylaws and enforced through normal review channels. Perhaps a state template for such a district already exists.

#### Town Center Storm Water Treatment Project - Mr. Johnson

1. Our DEP grant request has been awarded in the full amount. Mr. Johnson has received a draft contract from Jane Pierce, asking for some reformatting of proposed expenses, but substantially approving the entire amount requested. She plans to fund this project out of reserves, so that funds would be available as soon as a contract is signed.
2. With funds likely released earlier than expected, we hope to have documents for bidding ready by town meeting in the spring of 2009.
3. Mr. Ashley asked if the project would benefit if the town were to purchase the present Catholic Church property on Still River Road. We feel that town ownership of this property might permit an expanded treatment area for runoff from Elm Street, but the benefit of this added treatment area is uncertain; Mr. Johnson & Mr. Browse will query Horsley Witten. Mr. Ashley will discuss this with the selectmen.

#### Other Business

1. Ron Ricci has confirmed that the pump variable frequency drive has failed. A new VFD has been received and is understood to be installed; Mr. Ricci is planning to test it this weekend.

2. Mr. Ritter met with Ryan Andrews this past weekend, to review progress on the rebuilding of the beach kiosk. Mr. Andrews plans to install new faces (foamcore protected by acrylic) onto the existing kiosk, replicating the current text and graphics. Mr. Ritter will check with the harbormaster and the Park & Recreation Committee to ask if any changes to the printed rules and regulations are needed.
3. Mr. Johnson has received a final draft of the updated Open Space and Recreation Plan. Mr. Blanck will review and comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45PM.



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Nicholas Browse

December 9, 2008