

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: January 28, 2009

Members Bob Blanck Bill Johnson
Present: Nick Browse Bruce Leicher, Chair
Tom Gormley Jeff Ritter

Others Ron Ricci, Board of Selectmen
Present: Elizabeth Swain

A quorum being present, the meeting was called order at 7:30PM.

Secretary's Report - Mr. Browse

1. Minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2009 were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Johnson

1. Mr. Johnson reported the following fund balances:
 - \$ 31,536.39 Annual committee budget account (initial balance \$33,500)
 - \$ 10,997.16 Pump project reimbursables account
 - \$ 926.66 Gift account
 - \$ 478.37 Gift account
2. The only recent expense has been in our annual budget account, and has consisted of a charge for electricity use. We have not run the pump recently, and questioned the reason for this charge. After discussion, we feel it likely due to heating in the transformer at the end of Willow Road, which runs warm even under no load. Mr. Johnson agreed to call National grid to ask about a change in our electric service that would eliminate this transformer.

Conservation Commission

1. 12 Peninsula Road - The Commission requested comment to a Notice of Intent filed for land clearing already performed. The NOI reflects the work done but fails to indicate remedial action. We will ask ConsCom to ensure that any remedial action include restoration of the trees removed.

2. 13 Peninsula Road - The homeowner has submitted a plan showing paving of an existing driveway. We will ask ConsCom to request information regarding stormwater management.
3. The Commission has approved the start of the pond refill

Town Center Storm Water Treatment Project - Mr. Johnson

1. Mr. Johnson & Mr. Browse met with Jane Pierce of the state DEP, and we expect a contract to be available for signature at the February 3rd Selectmen's meeting. By unanimous vote we agreed to request the Selectmen to sign the contract.
2. Mr. Johnson summarized the town's matching contribution to the project. The match depends upon the DPW continuing to provide services, particularly street sweeping and pond muck removal. Muck removal is budgeted at 6 weeks for two men, or \$12K in labor. With equipment costs, the contribution becomes \$40K. We feel there is some risk that in the current economic climate the DPW may be unable to perform this work. Mr. Johnson suggested contacting the Community Preservation Committee for an additional \$40K, which would support muck removal labor costs for the three years of the project, or the full \$40K for one year. By unanimous vote we agreed to approach the CPC.
3. Mr. Browse will contact Tim Bragan and ask about the process for getting Horsley Witten's contract for engineering services signed.

Other Business

1. Mr. Ritter summarized his attendance at the recent COLAP (Massachusetts Congress of Lake & Pond Associations) conference. He described two sessions, one concerning a study of the quality of data gathered in evaluating stormwater management BMPs, and the other concerning state Fish & Game research into stream flows during pond drawdowns and refills.

Mr. Leicher reported a good reception to his presentation of our pump construction project. He also noted meeting someone who serves on a state board that reviews local ZBA decisions, and suggested this individual might be a good resource for us.

2. Ms. Swain asked about possible involvement in pond committee activities as a volunteer. Suggestions included organizing weed pulls and amphibian counts, and particularly establishing a continuing structure for these activities.
3. Mr. Johnson is planning to attend the upcoming Planning Board meeting, and will raise the subject of the pond overlay zoning district discussed last month.
4. Mr. Ritter reported that Liz Allard has agreed to look into who in town is responsible for the Bare Hill Pond Watershed signs.

5. Mr. Ritter suggested a Pond Committee table at town meeting. It was agreed this was a good idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.



Nicholas Browse

February 4, 2009