

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: May 26, 2009

Members Bob Blanck Jeff Ritter
Present: Nick Browse Liz Swain
Tom Gormley

A quorum being present, the meeting was called order by Mr. Ritter at 7:40PM.

Minutes

1. Minutes of the meeting of April 22 were reviewed and approved.

Town Center Storm Water Treatment Project - Mr. Browse

1. Mr. Browse reported on ongoing discussions with Bill Johnson, Jim Lee, and the engineers at Horsley Witten regarding the engineering of the systems:
 - a. Site BHP-1 (behind the Catholic Church) is looking less feasible than originally thought. Surveys have established that the existing wetlands are larger than anticipated, leaving less area for construction of a gravel wetland.
 - b. Site BHP-4 (Pond Road) requires re-design, as the initial plans called for a dry swale parallel to the edge of the soccer field, and there is insufficient space for this without encroaching on the field itself. An alternate plan is under consideration, locating a similar dry swale beyond the west end of the field.
 - c. Site BHP-6 (Bromfield School Entrance) will be revised to reflect planned work by Park & Rec to level the existing playing field.
2. The second round s.319 grant request is due in early June, and Bill Johnson has begun preparation of it. We plan to include progress engineering documents from Horsley Witten.
3. Mr. Gormley has begun development of a public communications plan, and will have a draft to review at the next meeting.

Other Business

1. The Committee has received copies of two Requests for Determination submitted by pond abutters to the Conservation Commission. Thomas Horrall, 26 Bowers Road, requests permission to fell several trees; Robert Donaldson, 29 Willow Road, requests permission to install a gazebo. We took no action on either; these are preliminary filings only, and nothing in them suggests a need to offer comments before we are formally asked by the Conservation Commission.
2. Mr. Ritter noted that the second frog count was conducted May 4. Two more are expected, one during the period of May - June 10, and a final count in July.
3. Mr. Blanck indicated that weed pulls have been scheduled for June 13, July 18, and August 8. These are Saturdays, and the events will each run from 9AM to 1PM. Park & Rec has been contacted, and notices will go out to the papers. We still need to determine what areas of the pond require attention, and Mr. Blanck will contact Rick Dickson. Ms. Swain noted the presence of weeds at the south end of the pond where we pulled extensively several years ago.
4. Mr. Ritter reported on discussions with Rich Nota and Park & Rec about the planned boat washdown hose at the town beach.
5. Mr. Gormley agreed to contact Mr. Leicher and begin the development of a draft zoning bylaw to establish a pond overlay district. We believe we can build on similar work already done by other communities.
6. Ms. Swain noted that her sister (a student at Johns Hopkins University) has written a paper describing the presence of a pollutant in the pond that can be traced to explosives (possibly July 4th fireworks). She agreed to get us a copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.



Nicholas Browse

May 27, 2009