

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: May 26, 2010

Members Tom Gormley Liz Swain (student member)
Present: Bob Blanck Nick Browse

Bill Johnson (Board of Selectmen)
Janet Waldron (Conservation Commission)
Mark Hardy (prospective new Committee member)
Bruce Leicher (later, 820pm)
Jeff Ritter (later, 820pm)

The meeting opened at 735pm with a quorum of three out of six current members – Mr. Gormley, Mr. Blanck, and Mr. Browse. We introduced ourselves to Mark Hardy who is considering joining the Committee.

Minutes approved

In the absence of our Chair, Mr. Leicher, the meeting was officially called to order by Mr. Gormley. We voted unanimously to approve the minutes from April 28, 2010.

Committee Membership renewal

1. Any current members up for renewal must submit their paperwork to the town hall, and make sure to complete the ethics online training. Ms. Swain had not yet submitted her intent to renew and will do so.
2. Some members still need to complete the ethics training online. We will send the link to Liz Swain, and prospective member Mark Hardy.

Stormwater Treatment Project

1. Mr. Johnson told us that Tim Bragan just received the 2nd contract from DEP for our grant, and will sign it once Mr. Johnson has had a chance to review it.
2. We had a strong response from contractors for our project. Fifteen have submitted their bids, and the process will close tomorrow, May 27. It should be very competitive.

3. Rich Nota will then recommend the best bid to the BOS, who will meet on June 8 at 4pm to approve the project and contractor. Mr. Ritter will review the bids with Mr. Nota to ensure we understand how the winning bid is chosen. Mr. Browse suggested that quality of bid as well as the price should be considered, although the low bid should be chosen according to state law. The town will then encumber sufficient funds for use by the project. Our committee is responsible for overseeing the appropriate encumbrance of funds for the project (not Mr. Nota).
4. Mr. Johnson said we have more than enough funds (\$660,000 including current balances, remaining balance from our prior grant, and our new grant) to begin construction, which will begin after school is out on June 18.
5. Mr. Browse has sent Jim Lee of Parks & Rec the latest drawings of relevant BMP designs, and is awaiting his feedback. Mr. Johnson met with Pete Jackson of the Library Trust, who said we need an easement for construction, but he later said never mind. He did request that we sod rather than seed the related areas near the library, and Mr. Johnson concurred.

Drawdown / Conservation Commission

Further discussions with Cons Comm about issues with last year's drawdown and this year's plans raised the following items:

1. NOI – do we need an update or new NOI for excavation plans or normal drawdown activities? The excavation plans require further discussion to deal with large rock removal, material storage, timing, and water flows. Mr. Johnson will send the original NOI to Mr. Leicher for review or updating.
2. Other boards discussion. Mr. Leicher and Mr. Ritter joined the meeting at this point in the discussion. Mr. Leicher suggested that he and other committee members need to meet with the Cons Comm and other committees including Parks & Rec and the Rowing Association for discussion of drawdown plans. Paul Willard of Cons Comm has suggested the town hold debate uses of the pond for future planning. Mr. Johnson suggested inviting someone from Rowing to our next meeting in June.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Ritter

1. Mr. Ritter reported the following fund balances:

\$ 15,047.86	Annual committee budget account
60,496.32	CPC account
85,108.71	Stormwater management project reimbursable account
<u>238.55</u>	Gift account
\$160,891.44	Total

Other Business

1. Water quality testing – results of wet test in April are not back yet.
2. New committee candidates must attend the BOS meeting on June 24 for their appointments. Mr. Leicher should attend as well for the committee.
3. EPA equipment grant – We will ask Deb Pierce apply for the equipment grant by the deadline June 1.
4. Harvester – Engine repairs are completed and under budget. The repair will extend the harvester’s life by 8-10 years. This is a great story. Get the local papers to write up. Rick Dixon will run the harvester, and Bob O’Shea is now also trained to run it as a backup.
5. Weed pulls – Mr. Blanck reported we are all set for the June pull, with announcements in the Press.
6. Boat ramp and washing signage. Mr. Ritter said we need to work on updating the signage to encourage compliance with boat washing, and asked Mr. Gormley to lead that as part of our outreach activities. Mr. Gormley will meet with Mr. Ritter to get the details.
7. Selling excavation materials. We are still seeking input on whether we can sell our pond excavation materials. There was a suggestion to speak with Mark Saydah and Rich Nota about ideas on that.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00PM.

Tom Gormley

May 26, 2010