

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management

MEETING NOTES

Date: August 25, 2010, 7:30pm

Place: Hildreth House

Members Present: Bruce Leicher (Chair, departed at 845pm), Jeff Ritter, Robert Blanck, Nick Browse, Mark Hardy, Liz Swain, Deb Pierce

Others Present: Bill Johnson (BoS), Janet Waldron (Conservation Commission)

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Mr. Leicher. Mr. Hardy took the meeting notes in Mr. Gormley's (Secretary) absence.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Ritter

01490	Annual budget of \$33,500	Paid miscellaneous invoices	\$ 9,965.98
01489	CPC grant of \$119,104	Used balance of \$57,655.82 to pay J.J. Phelan \$160k	\$ 0.00
27023	State reimbursement fund	Paid remainder of J.J. Phelan \$160k invoice	\$ 55,389.83
	Gift account		\$ 238.00
	Total		\$ 65,593.81

1. Mr. Ritter will submit receipts to DEP for reimbursement, totaling \$163,000.
2. We need to maximize our reporting of volunteer hours for the state match.

Stormwater Treatment Project

1. Mr. Browse discussed Horsley Witten's proposal to assess additional, potential stormwater management sites (three landowner sites). It would cost \$1,580 for an on the spot assessment without a written report, and \$2,000 including a report.
2. Mr. Ritter made a motion to judge feasibility and rough order of cost for a placeholder. Mr. Browse seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Excavation Project

1. Mr. Blanck discussed his presentation to the Cons Comm a week earlier of an excavation proposal with the primary goal of improving the swimming area of the beach. There was agreement in principle at the meeting that the pond might benefit. The discussion from Conservation Commission included:
 - a. A formal engineering plan will be required for the project, and choosing an engineering firm with wetlands experience is recommended.
 - b. The extent of permitting required for the excavation ("dry dredging" or dredging) appears to fall within Chapter 91.
 - c. Need to accurately define the perimeter and depth of the intended excavation.

- d. A contingency plan for leakage must be included.
2. Parks and Recreation was not in attendance at the meeting, but Bizzie Herbolzheimer, representing the beach, did attend and noted vigorously the importance of the work from the perspective of both safety and quality of swimming and diving.
3. Mr. Blanck and others from the Committee will investigate the permitting requirements and whether the US Army Corps of Engineers need to be involved. Mr. Blanck will also look into possible firms for both engineering and contracting on the project.

Drawdowns – Mr. Leicher, all

1. Pond Committee met with Conservation Commission earlier in the month to present and discuss the drawdown strategy, including benefits of the management approaches we are using. Based on the discussion, we will provide a confirmatory report to attach to the NOI, confirming that the GEIR has been appropriately followed, with no negative impact to other areas (e.g. upstream wetlands). A disinterested party (e.g. GEIR author) should be retained to explain that we exceed the requirements.
2. We discussed the following questions:
 - a. Is this the right process? (DEP can provide some support gratis)
 - b. Is there a need to audit the data? (Perhaps Michelle Girard?)
3. Ms. Waldron will ask the Cons Comm whether these proposals would be acceptable to them.

Other

1. The pond level measurement pole has been installed in preparation for the drawdown. There was discussion of attaching some buoys to mark the pipe line.

The meeting was adjourned by proper motion (Mr. Ritter, Ms. Pierce) at 9:17PM.

Tom Gormley
Secretary

Documents Reviewed at this meeting (Attached):

1. Meeting agenda
2. Copy of Email from Mr. Blanck to the Conservation Commission, dated August 20, discussing the results of the meeting held on August 19.
3. Copy of August 25 Email from Liz Allard to various Pond Committee and Conservation Commission members, regarding information relevant to the excavation project (e.g. Chapter 91)
4. Water quality test report from Berkshire Labs from tests on June 9 and 21.
5. Draft of Pond Committee 2011 goals, as requested by the Board of Selectmen.
6. Horsley Witten proposal for services to assess additional stormwater management opportunities in connection with the DEP grant.