

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: April 25, 2011, 7:30pm
Place: Hildreth House

Members Present: Nick Browse, Tom Gormley, Mark Hardy, Bruce Leicher (Chair),
Jeff Ritter, Deb Pierce, Liz Swain

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

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

Secretary's Report – Mr. Gormley
Minutes from March 28th, 2011 were approved with minor changes.

Treasurer's Report - Mr. Ritter

01490	Annual budget of \$33,500		\$ 0.00
01489	CPC grant of \$119,104		\$ 0.00
27023	State reimbursement fund		\$ 16,237.82
26612	Gift account		\$ 238.55
	Total		\$ 16,476.37

1. Reimbursement submitted for \$49k, usually takes 3-4 weeks.

Dam Repair

1. Liz Allard is supposed to get us plans to review for dam area. Cons Comm agrees to removing big trees, but not to eliminate shrubs although we can cut them low.
2. We've spent little of the \$37k from the town warrant article so far.
3. We disagree with using herbicide on stumps, as will Cons Comm.

Drawdown update

1. Level is a bit high (14" below top vs. 18" normal) right now, due to having an extra board in the dam. Mr. Leicher pulled out two boards to bring it down to normal level.
2. We were joined by Mr. Philip Rayla of Clinton Shores, who attended to give us his input on the impact of drawdowns near his residence.
 - a. Mr. Rayla found some snail shells on the ice sheet before ice out, while kayaking in the pond this spring. He believes they are Boreal Turret Snail, an endangered species. He's concerned the drawdowns may be killing these and other mollusks. Native birds are feeding on them each fall. Our impression is that the mussel population in the pond is healthy, and this is supported by experts we've heard speak on this topic (Sean Worley).
 - b. He believes drawdowns are helping in some areas of the pond, but not in his area. He believes the water quality is declining. He is also seeing blue green algae, and suggests we come see it this summer. We agreed to do so and will follow up and

- might also get Wendy Gendron involved to look at the area in her future tests.
- c. We thanked Mr. Rayla for attending and for his input.

Beach Excavation

1. Mr. Johnson attended the meeting at the beach with Horsley Witten. They needed some guidance. They didn't see a real berm in the beach area.
2. Mr. Hardy will stay in touch with Horsley Witten about further plans.

Stormwater Treatment Project

1. The ball is in Horsley Witten's court at this point, but we need to stay on them about it. Mr. Hardy will follow up with them regarding the three new BMP sites.
2. The mat on the ground at BHP-3 (or BHP-4?) has been torn out by DPW, rather than the planned use of volunteers for this activity. Rich Nota is having a disagreement with Cons Comm about this, because non-biodegradable netting was used, not per the Order of Conditions. Mr. Browse is following up with them.
3. Mr. Browse met with Parks & Rec about BHP-4 which is wetter and more full than expected. We agreed to keep a watch over it.
4. Mr. Johnson met with Rich Nota regarding the budget for ongoing maintenance of the stormwater treatment sites. Long term it should be a DPW budget item, but that will take 1-2 years. For now it's a Pond Committee budget item. Mr. Nota has estimated \$5k. We voted on a motion authorizing up to \$7k starting July 1 (next fiscal year) for this maintenance, and it passed unanimously.

Outreach Event

1. Mr. Gormley proposed several dates in June, before school is out, including June 4-5, the 11th, 18th, and 25th. The 11th is out due to graduation events. Budget roughly \$500.
2. Event is for pond "abutters" only. Invites will go out several weeks in advance of the event. We will employ neighborhood "recruiters" to help ensure good attendance. Mr. Johnson, Mr. Leicher, and Mr. Gormley will contact recruiters in neighborhoods.

Other

1. The repair of the road drain on Pond Rd is only temporary. DPW will address.
2. Parks & Rec would like us to run the weed harvester through the beach this summer. We have an issue with the harvester – Gino (DPW) left his job with the town, so we now have no one who can maintain it.
3. Frog counts. Mr. Ritter's group heard lots of frogs, including peepers in some new places where we've not heard them in the past. Three residents joined this time.
4. Mr. Ritter spoke with Jeff Coots, who is interested in joining the pond committee, to replace one of our soon-to-be outgoing members.

The meeting was adjourned by proper motion at 9:20pm.

Tom Gormley
Secretary

Documents Reviewed at this meeting:

1. Meeting agenda
2. March, 2011 meeting minutes.
3. Boreal Turret Snail description, from Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program.