

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: January 4, 2011, 7:30pm
Place: Hildreth House

Members Present: Robert Blanck, Nick Browse, Bruce Leicher, Tom Gormley

Others Present: Wendy Gendron (Aquatic Restoration Consulting)

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. Leicher. This was a special committee meeting called to discuss plans for responding to the Conservation Commission's request for additional expert input on the efficacy of our pond management activities.

Report from Wendy Gendron

Ms. Gendron provided a copy of her report summarizing the watershed and in-lake water quality sampling, and plant survey data she collected for us during 2010. The report should be read for a full analysis of the results, but at a high level it observes very little change since the more detailed 2007 study, which concluded that the drawdowns were likely responsible for a reduction in milfoil in certain areas of the pond. Phosphorous levels are similar to prior years with perhaps a slight downward trend.

Conservation Commission Request – Mr. Leicher

The Cons Comm wants an objective opinion on the efficacy of our drawdowns, including impacts on weeds, fish, amphibians, and mussels. We've asked Wendy Gendron to represent us in this way, but are not sure whether the Cons Comm will view her as objective, since she has worked with us for several years. Ms. Gendron suggested that she could call Paul Willard to ask for his input on what the Cons Comm is looking for, and we agreed with that suggestion. She will call Paul in the next week. Mr. Leicher will tell Paul to expect her call.

As input to that discussion, we discussed with Ms. Gendron the following experience with drawdowns:

- Effective, reduction in milfoil (and fanwort) from the shore to the 5-7 foot depth range, but not deeper.
- Resident pond abutters have reported noticing fewer frogs (more weeds), but this doesn't match what we've found in our amphibian surveys the last few years.
- Ms. Gendron's plant surveys indicate milfoil is being replaced by lower-growing, seed-bearing plants, including fanwort.

The timeline for working with Cons Comm on this discussion will be as follows:

1. Ms. Gendron talk with Paul Willard over the phone, to get his input and get a sense of

- whether she will meet the Cons Comm's requirements as an objective expert.
2. Pond Committee and Ms. Gendron meet with Cons Comm informally at first, to learn more about what they want as far as objective input (Feb, March?).
 3. Come back for a formal presentation, after preparations (March?).
 4. Draft NOI in April.

Horsley Witten proposal

We will plan to use cash from the CPC for both projects proposed by HW:

1. Additional Stormwater Treatment projects beyond the initial sites.
2. Design of beach excavation project. So far, the Cons Comm is not in favor of this project, and Parks & Rec isn't excited about it either.

The meeting was adjourned by proper motion at 8:45PM.

Tom Gormley
Secretary

Documents Reviewed at this meeting (Attached):

1. Meeting agenda
2. Watershed Sampling Report, from Aquatic Restoration Consulting