

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

MEETING NOTES

Date: May 28, 2013, 7:30pm

Place: Hildreth House

Present

Members: Bruce Leicher (chair), Peter von Loesecke, Megan Glew, Bob Blanck, Deb Pierce, Tom Gormley (late)

Others: Janet Waldron (Cons Comm); Brian McClain (prospective new member)

Mr. Leicher opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

Committee Membership

1. Mr. Brian McClain has submitted an application to join the Committee. He joined us for this meeting. Mr. McClain does not live on the pond.
2. Ms. Pierce will finish her term next month and will step down. She will help us identify a student member of the Committee.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. von Loesecke

1. The report for this month will come later this week.

Secretary's Report – Mr. Gormley

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes from the prior monthly meeting (April, 2013). A *Motion to approve* the minutes was unanimous in favor with one requested change.

Monitoring – Ms. Gendron

1. Ms. Gendron will be doing more sampling next month on the pond.
2. We had our second frog count this month, with two more scheduled in June to complete this year's monitoring.

Drawdown and Other Weed Management Methods

1. Mr. von Loesecke will contact Will Stevenson of Lycott about going out on the pond to see our invasive weed issues that his company might help us with.
2. There is still discussion with Cons Comm as to whether we might take a year off from drawdowns this coming fall in response to abutter and other concerns.
3. We will conduct a weed pull for water chestnuts in late July or early August depending on conditions.

Fish Kill

1. Early in the month we and others noticed a lot of dead fish floating in the pond. Roughly 35 sunfish were found near the beach, and a total of roughly 50 were seen around the pond overall.
2. We consulted Wendy Gendron and DEP who said it's most likely not a public health issue such as contamination of some sort, because it's just one species. If it were a contamination it would

have affected other species as well. What occurs frequently in these events is a natural phenomenon when there is little rain (for more than 10 days in this case) and poor circulation in the pond, fish use up most of the oxygen.

Outreach

1. Mr. Gormley suggested publishing another article in the Press about the results of recent frog counts.
2. We should make the most of the monitoring of Ms. Gendron when she visits, inviting residents to join us in boats or ask questions afterward at the beach.

Other

1. There is a new tear down planned on Peninsula Rd. There is a tight tank of 4,000 gallons. Cons Comm would like our comment. Mr. Leicher suggested that we use the same standard letter we've used before for such construction situations, to warn property owners about fertilizer restrictions, not adding to runoff, and no cutting of vegetation in the wetlands. The committee agreed with this suggestion.
2. Mr. Leicher was asked by a the pond committee for Boon Lake in Stow to join them to look at their weed issues and potential solutions including drawdowns. Mr. Leicher believes drawdowns probably wouldn't be effective there due to the shallow wells there. Plus they limit their drawdowns to 6" which isn't effective for killing weeds.

The meeting was adjourned by proper motion at 8:30 PM.

Tom Gormley
Secretary

Documents Reviewed at this meeting:

1. Meeting agenda
2. Prior months' meeting minutes – April, 2013.
3. Volunteer application, Brian McClain
4. Mass Wildlife article on fish kills.