

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

Meeting Notes

Date: 22 July 2019

Place: Town Hall

Present

Members: Bruce Leicher (Chair), Brian McClain, Pablo Carbonell, Morey Kraus and Rachel Shrives (student member)

Non-Member: Rick Dickson

Bruce Leicher opened the meeting at 7:30pm – Morey Kraus was voted in to achieve a quorum.

Secretary's Report

Minutes for April, May and June of 2019 were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report

None

Committee Goals Discussion

Goals were edited and finally approved

Pond Tour Report

Tour took place on Saturday July 20. Only half the registered participants showed up – mostly due to the hot 95° day. Discussed whether to have tour again next year or have a presentation in the spring on the Pond instead.

Harvard Environmental Forum update

As part of HEF follow up - Bruce Leicher and Eric Broadbent met with the Select Board to propose a way to raise environmental impact awareness when town decisions are made. This would be achieved by use of a short “environmental impact” questionnaire. The Select Board responded favorably to this proposal.

Fall drawdown planning

Committee will delay drawdown planning until receiving Pond more complete monitoring results towards end of the summer. Currently, based on the elevated levels of phosphorous measured in April/June, it is expected that we will recommend that a drawdown be performed again this year.

Water chestnut report

Rick Dickson reported that he had pulled 5 water chestnuts so far this year after 10 hours of searching.

Rick also described the history of water chestnut control in the Pond. By far the most effective method of chestnut removal was Rick's use of a harvester to remove very large amounts of chestnuts – this dramatically reduced the prevalence of chestnuts to the point that manual pulling is sufficient.

We discussed ways of educating Pond kayakers to take on chestnut monitoring/pulling. Morey will work with Rick on this topic.

Finally, Pablo may submit an article to the Press in the future on this topic to help raise awareness.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm

Brian McClain
Secretary