

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee

Meeting Notes

Date: 17 February 2021

Place: Online Zoom meeting

Members Present: Bruce Leicher (Chair), Brian McClain, Kerry Shrives, Megan Glew, Peter Von Loesecke

Members Absent: Pablo Carbonell, Morey Kraus (Alternate Member)

Others Present:

none

Bruce Leicher opened the meeting at 7:32 pm

Secretary's Report

Minutes for January 25, 2021, and February 1, 2021 meetings were approved with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report

A remaining invoice for Applewood Controls, Inc., was paid.

Discuss and prepare comments on BOH Algal Bloom Monitoring Proposal

The Board of Health outlined the roles and responsibilities for observing pond conditions and implementing a plan for monitoring water quality, testing, notification, etc., for algal blooms when issues present themselves in the future.

Clarification sought on separate advisories for no swimming and in-water activities. As per the BOH, only an advisory can be issued; has no strict enforcement authority. Activities separated to make it very clear that there is no swimming and no primary activities. If a toxin test is 14ppb or greater then secondary activities are also prohibited. If 1m levels then all contact advised against. Language to be added to address what test results are required to release an advisory.

The BOH's plan is to go to town meeting for special authorization to ask for funding. This is necessary due to 2021 level funding. Letter to be drafted and sent to the finance committee and select board that the Pond committee is in support of the town article.

Park & Recreation Request to Study Pond Road Field

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) declined to fund the study to see what might be done with the woods between the beach and the town well, for recreational fields, a boathouse, or other use.

Ethics Matter

Bruce Leicher had a conversation with Alice Von Loesecke, Tim Bragan, and Town Counsel Mark Lanza re: abutters serving on the Pond committee and clarity on potential conflict of interest. Advised that the Town Counsel didn't believe there would be a financial interest to vote on agenda items by pond abutters or property owners in the watershed. However, abutters on the Pond committee should go through the process established under the ethics law to have an appraiser or licensed real estate agent consider the situation and confirm in their view that decisions made by members would not have a material impact on property value. Requires a submission to the select board.

Pump Repair Proposal

No action taken, awaiting resolution of ethics matter.

BMP Monitoring Proposal

No action taken, awaiting resolution of ethics matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

Kerry Shrives/Secretary

Next Scheduled Meeting: March 15, 2021