

Bare Hill Pond Committee

Monthly meeting minutes for March

Hildreth house, Harvard, MA

Attendies	Present
Bruce Leichter	Yes
Brian McClain	Yes
Peter Von Loesecke	Yes
Megan Glew	Yes
Connor O’ Shea	No
Joe Pettrossi	No
Morey Kraus	No
Steve Gordon	Yes
Ashwini Kumar	Yes

1	Treasurers report: We have outstanding credit \$1000 from national grid. This will be carried over into next year.
2	Ericsson Broadbent mentioned that this year’s environmental Forum is reschedule for May. Some of the topic of discussions in that event will be Resiliency of watersheds in Harvard and energy sustainability. Pond Committee needs to recommend how we would deal with a situation wherein the dams are likely to be breached due to over flooding and heavy rains.
3	Wendy Gendron put forth a business contract for Bare Hill Pond aquatic plant survey and water quality sampling. This amounted to a lump sum of \$12,990 and was unanimously approved by the committee.

Monday, March 19, 2018

4	Committee members volunteered to offer their boats in support of Wendy's pond tour to be conducted this year. In addition, patrons could take advantage of renting canoes at the pond to participate in the pond tour.
5	Given the feedback of many swimmers that the weeds were high last year, there is little need for Wendy to have special consideration for analyzing the swim area. The solution recommended is to organize life guards and rowing teams to rake the floor of the pond in the swim area and clean up afterwards. This will have to be done in concert with parks and recreation department.
6	Committee members were reminded to complete the conflict of interest course again keeping in mind the open meeting law.
7	The committee was contacted by Harvard athletic association. They wish to install a synthetic turf at the soccer field near the library. They are seeking approval from several committees including the Pond committee. The pond committee notes that heavy metals from synthetic turf leaches into the ground and could be problematic in this highly sensitive area comprising a well, marshes and pond itself. Natural alternative made from nuts will cause allergy concerns. The general consensus is to recommend using natural grass, install a pump in the pond for irrigation purposes and not use fertilizers.
8	It is reported that more invasive plants are detected in Pond. A Request for determination (RDA) from conservation committee to procure "Round Up" herbicide will be made. This herbicide will make it easier to eliminate these species from the pond without having to physically uproot them.
9	Frog count will be organized again this year. It was observed that organizing this during the last week of April proved to be too late. This year, it will commence on 8th or 15th of April around sunset. Volunteers for this effort will be sought via social media.
10	Members of the committee attended the all boards bi annual meeting. No inputs or comments from pond committee was sought.
11	This year, the pump worked well during the drawdown. DPW saved power utilization by adapting to the height of water to turn on or off the pump.

Next Bare Hill Pond Committee meeting: April 30th 2018