

# Farm Pond Advisory Committee

## Draft Minutes

September 20, 2010

**Members Present:** Pat Cassell, Catherine Rocchio, Melinda O'Neill, Pat LeBlanc, Jackie Martin, Steve Scrimshaw, Bob Murchison

**Guest present:** Karen Juhl

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

Minutes of the July 13, 2010 meeting were approved with Steve Scrimshaw mentioning and Jackie Martin seconding.

### Status reports:

**Accessibility:** Karen Juhl, head of the Council on Aging (COA) attended the meeting to give her opinion regarding accessibility to Farm Pond for seniors. Proposal from the DAC to designate all 6 parking spots by the boat ramp for senior parking was discussed. Karen would like seniors to feel like they have access to the pond and will go to the board and ask what the issues are. Might not need all 6 spots, perhaps just one. Karen also suggested considering a golf cart to help seniors from parking lot to beach. Pat reminded us of availability of all-terrain chair. Karen asked for our help with an article for the June/July Link newsletter outlining the ways in which Farm Pond is Sr-friendly. Catherine offered to help write this article.

**Overcrowding:** Selectman approved overcrowding process for too many swimmers. Mary Ellen decides when overcrowding has occurred and posts signs that indicate this state and no more drop-offs. However, signs were not used. Drop-offs also impact financial issues also but must distinguish over crowding issue vs lost revenue. Action plan: 1) Get signs for Maryellen, 2) Role of financial issues 3) Need to get log books from Maryellen to understand # parked vs # dropped off. Catherine Rocchio will bring log books next time.

**Medfield Water Rights:** Have water rights back but waiting for the deed. Noted DeRensis article in the newspaper. Do we still have a role here? Pump house tear down or fix? Decision to stay out of issue unless asked by Selectman. Steve Scrimshaw suggested that we write recommendation to Selectman to recognize the people who had a role in getting water rights back to Sherborn. Catherine Rocchio offered to write this letter.

**Financial Updates:** Spreadsheets are difficult or impossible to read without direction because the town and pond have different fiscal years. Numbers look like we won't have

enough money to cover until July 2011. Bob Murchison, Pat LeBlanc and Catherine Rocchio offered to meet with Ruth, town accountant to see if there is any other way to report finances so they can be better understood.

**Water Testing:** Beach was closed a couple of times, and closure process went smoothly. Failures were at the end of the season. Will try to understand test results from log book data. Try to also understand why such huge variability in E coli (low values vs. 2000) and enterococci (6000 vs <10 in under a month).

**Water Quality:** Steve went out with Tom Trainer. Layers of water not mixing (warm on top, cool on bottom). Oxygen near zero at bottom of pond and this is not good for the health of the pond and fish. Water clarity is good. Pond is stable. Discussed need for community education. Steve Scrimshaw offered to present to FPAC regarding issues related to pond health.

**Storm Water and Erosion:** Norfolk Ram grant results available in Nov. It would be a matching grant, we will be eligible for about \$32K for storm water control. Money not available until spring of 2011, construction would be in the fall of 2011. If we don't get the grant, have \$11K set aside to fix the cart path. Question regarding what all is involved in the grant. Jackie Martin will get a copy of the grant to find out. Drain near boat ramp, needs to be cleaned periodically, done by CM&D. Jeanne Guthrie communicated to Jackie that the swale at the top of the boat ramp needs to be cleaned periodically and suggested the yacht club might do this.

New item: Discussion of geese addling

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Martin