

Farm Pond Advisory Committee Minutes

May 19, 2010

Members Present: Doug Cassell, Pat Cassell, Bob Murchison, Matt Neutra, Catherine Rocchio, Steve Scrimshaw.

Guests Present: Deb Barnet, Ted Elliman, Pat LeBlanc, Jackie Martin, Melinda O'Neill, Maryellen Salamone

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM.

Minutes of the April 20th, 2010 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Status Reports:

- (a) Medfield Water Rights – There has not been any progress from DCAM regarding the repair of the pump house roof. There has not been additional progress on the water rights issue. There has been no additional information regarding the transport of hazardous waste from the Medfield state hospital site.
- (b) Financial – Town meeting appropriation results. Funds available for appropriation were about \$7,500 short. The actual Town Meeting appropriation divided the shortage between salaries and expenses. As much purchasing as possible will be done before the end of the fiscal year in order to ensure responsible use of the expected surplus from the current fiscal year. Doug and Bob are working on a more detailed description of how the funding model works for the Farm Pond reservation. FPAC briefly reviewed the Farm Pond Budget process document dated May 16th, 2010. FPAC is planning to sit with the Town Accountant to see if improvements can be made to the financial model and process.
- (c) Update – Status of sub-committee work on the preparation of policy document on managing beach crowding. The FPAC reviewed the sub-committee policy draft document and discussed the policy. The policy identifies the decision makers and steps to take in overcrowding situations. The policy also outlines the triggers and procedures to be followed in the event of an overcrowding situation. The FPAC moved to approve the policy with changes. The policy document will be forwarded to the Selectmen for their approval.
- (d) Update – Annual Town Meeting approval of funds for the correction of cart path erosion. Funds for card path improvements were approved.
- (e) Beach Closings – Status of follow-up. A meeting with the BOH in April resulted in a plan to stagger the two types of tests (e-coli and Enterococci) and do the latter tests when the weather gets hotter. Microbac will do the testing for this summer. Hub Lab in Waltham also does both of these tests (<http://www.hubtesting.net/>). FPAC will continue to investigate the detail of the tests. Doug will talk to Jeanne Guthrie about the details.

Discussion of re-nominations to seats for terms expiring in June: Potential new members were present at the meeting and had the opportunity to see the proceedings.

Farm Pond Booklet: No new progress. Matt to get antique photos from Betsy Johnson.

Concerns about CM&D use of overflow lot: FPAC approved Bob Murchison's draft of a letter from the committee to the Board of Selectmen suggesting that CM&D use of the overflow parking lot at Farm Pond to store equipment and materials was unwise and that in the future the overflow lot should not be used for that purpose without permission from the BOS and with the advice from FPAC.

Review of a letter from Marianne Moore: FPAC reviewed a letter requesting permission to conduct a study in Farm Pond. The FPAC discussed the request and voted to support the request. Doug will forward our approval to the BOS.

Request by Millis resident to use Farm Pond for swim team practice: Maryellen suggested that the applicants should inquire about joining the Sherborn Snappers swim team. The consensus of the committee was that that is the best approach.

Wednesday, June 16th, 2010 is the date of our next meeting. It was noted that this will consist of a tour of the Reservation at 6:00 PM, followed by a regular meeting at Town Hall at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Neutra