

White Pond Advisory Committee
Remote Meeting
10/27/20

Meeting called to order at 7:39

In attendance Carmen Jaquier, Beth Kelly, Cheryl Baggen

Guests included Jane Hotchkiss, Susan Folgar, Jeff Parker, Kate Hodges

John Carlton

Jane Hotchkiss

Katherine Power

Mark Gailus

Mark Gailius

Jim Ricker

Yuk Inomoto

Pam Reed

Jeff Parker

Lydia's Ipad

Jim Rogers

Meeting opened 7:02

Minutes of August 26, 2020 approved

Carmen introduced two new prospective members of the Committee

Jeff Parker

Susan Folgar

BFT

Carmen updated the Committee regarding fencing to be installed along Sudbury line on the White Pond side (6 ft high black metal). On opposite side, the fence will be 3 row wooden fence Stone Root can have a gate, but they will have to pay for the cost of fence and installation.

A gate will be installed past the pond to let people get to trails or the Pond

Extra fencing will be installed at Powder Mill, as bikers have already eroded the existing trail.

Carmin stated that the BFT Committee is very proactive as they are willing to make changes as they observe people use the trails.

Beth stated that Stone Root already has access to the Pond off White Avenue. She indicated that the White Ave beach was heavily used this summer. Many people used it that were not

from White Ave. This is a semi-private deeded beach. She suggested that the BFT Committee consider a fence for White Ave.

White Pond improvement Plan

Overview by Carmen

She asserted that a wooded bucolic setting should be retained, which includes maintaining the wooded area, which should be observable from the beach (looking back up the hill side). Carmen noted that the WPAC is charged by the Selectboard, as stated in the WPAC charter, as responsible for stewardship of White Pond and to give voice to neighborhood concerns - in other words, a voice of the Pond to the Town.

Carmen stated that when homeowners with plans to build or make improvements to their properties submit their plans to WPAC, the Committee considers the following:

Is there an increase in impermeable areas
How to retain runoff.

ESS found in its review of White Pond that higher levels of phosphorus found the Pond were due, in large part, to runoff from abutting land, and that this issue was particularly bad at Sachem Cove, the beach, and the boat launch.

Carmin noted that the Town has done an excellent job of reducing erosion at Sachem Cove by its recent actions.

A participant stated the survey was not well advertised.

Jane - said the plan for tomorrow's meeting (THE WHITE POND NEIGHBORHOOD-PUBLIC FORUM VIA ZOOM) was to start the plan from scratch.

She stated that tomorrow's meeting is intended to be a public meeting for public input

Jane - Doesn't know how the survey is being used.

Not sure how the process has gone - publication regarding upcoming meeting

Carmen offered copies to Jim and Susan.

Beth indicated her belief that the property be viewed in was consistent with its sister pond - Walden Pond - where there are few picnic tables and no playground.

She felt that the Town should preserve plantings and indicated her concerns about runoff and drainage.

It was agreed that ADA requirements must be met, but there was a lack of understanding based on the plans, which of the various proposals were necessitated by ADA. There were also questions as to the reason for the crisscross of the various paths.

Jeff stated that there was access to many by means of the board ramp and emphasized his concern about the amount of work being considered by the Town

It was noted that the Town, as a municipality, has to comply with different rules than the White Pond Associates.

Issues and Concerns voice by various participants:

How many parking spots needed for ADA compliance.

Could more handicapped spots be placed at the bottom of the ramp and thereby reduce the amount of disturbance of the slope.

View Scape must be considered. Where are the concrete walls and boulders?

Carmen noted that BFT had to replace a number of trees because they died and that was flat land, due to poor soils and the Pond hillside has similar soils.

It was suggested that all cleared areas and shade pavilions be removed as this increases runoff

Building momentum - process is going too quickly -

Survey was misleading - asked if the area should be reforested, but respondents did not know that the area was going to be deforested.

Explore alternatives for parking down below

Walden and White Pond have been used for years with a few picnic benches and no pavilions.

A change in land use requires great many well publicised community discussions.

Carmen believes that there will be no management of land after the beach closes.

We need more meetings and better advertisements.

Article in the Journal. People need to know what is happening.

No work should be done at the site, including any movement of soil, before the final plan is approved.

Consider that this project, as planned, will gain traction without town wide input.

Write op-ed

Parts of the gift are not public but that was the way it was structured.

Town staff has been assigned and directed that the beach has to pay for itself.

Expressly stated that they would not increase numbers of membership. So how would these add-ons make the beach pay for itself.

Who created the survey and how it is going to be considered to let the residents know. Not quite the magnitude

Meeting adjourned at 8:25.