

July 11th, 2016 Meeting Summary

Members present: Steve Abramson, Marlene Haresign, Rik Kristiansen, Steve Lerner, Gloria Rabinowitz, Rachel Verno

Guests: Town Board members, John Bouvier and Christine Scalera; Town Engineer, Christine Fetten; Environmental Engineer, Pio Lombardo; Bob Hertzka, Tom Halsey, Dori and Howard Kamp, Alan Harper, Tom White, Mosey Muller

The May and June minutes were approved.

Storm water abatement plan for Deerfield Road:

Meeting was turned over to Town officials and Pio Lombardo. Christine Fetten recapped what has occurred over the past several years regarding working on removing sediment from Mill Pond and controlling storm water on Deerfield Road using 2014 grant funds and consolidated other funds. There is currently \$187,000 left in grant money.

Offer by Town to purchase 602 Deerfield Rd. with CPF funds was unsuccessful. Town reached out to owner of 380 Deerfield Rd. to build a rain garden on his property. Waiting for a signed access agreement in order to survey property and design a plan. (Note: Since our meeting, the access agreement has been signed).

Pio Lombardo felt the most important step to remediate Mill Pond would be to stop nutrients from entering pond. Storm water must be filtered prior to flowing into pond. Current storm drains can be used more efficiently, but proper maintenance is imperative. He proposed the use of Permeable pavers with grass that allows water to seep through as another option that would be low profile and blend in with the pond. Additional catch basins will have to be added all down the road and the existing ones need to be put into operating condition. He also suggested that while a rain garden should continue to be pursued, it may not be necessary if all the storm drains work as they should.

The meeting then opened to comments from community members, many of which expressed dismay and frustration that this situation has gone on for so many years after repeated outcries to correct it. One guest commented that the largest contributor to the rot that is already at the bottom of the pond are outdated septic systems. Other contributing factors such as carp, and lily pads were brought up. There are no current plans to harvest the lily pads or eliminate the carp as was done in the past. There is currently no ongoing testing of the water quality. Discussion followed that once the storm water is controlled, there may still be a need for dredging or some other form of dealing with the condition of the pond. CAC requested to have lily pads cut back by Town Trustees and John Bouvier and Christine Scalera will address this issue.

(Note: Since our meeting, CAC asked the Trustees to put the issue on their agenda and while they discussed the issue, they did not reach a consensus nor make any commitment to harvest the lily pads.

Councilman Bouvier reiterated that major cause of phosphorus entering pond is due to septic systems and that Town is working to address this issue town wide. A referendum this November to propose an extension of the CPF program will also include that up to 20% annually of the Community Preservation Funds could be used to address water quality issues such as upgrading septic systems and storm water abatement.

The Town agreed to come back to CAC in September with a plan of action. Town Board members felt confident that Pio Lombardo will come up with a workable and successful plan.