

Fells Pond
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Fells Pond Village Meeting

July 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Village Chair Catherine Power at 10:12 a.m. at the Congregational Church at PopponessetMarketplace.

The Chair requested that any volunteers that would like to be part of the village committee feel free to express interest. The committee would welcome fresh ideas and participation. She then introduced current committee members Dr. Ed Cohen and Marty Sullivan. The other committee member, Jack Fitzsimmons was unable to attend due to a family commitment in Paris, France.

Village residents were given an opportunity to introduce themselves and provide their address. There were approximately 60 village residents in attendance.

The chair reported that the village was in excellent fiscal shape with only three delinquent homeowners (one of whom has been delinquent for six years). She expects to run a surplus of \$25,000 for this year and add to the village reserves bringing the total to over \$80,000.

The pond is in excellent shape and was treated for algae and invasive weed growth on June 28. The pond is tested weekly during the summer months and is safe for swimming. A resident raised the issue of whether there should be signs banning swimming nude as he observed a nine-month old child in the pond with his or her parents but without a swim diaper. He questioned whether this would cause a hazard for other swimmers. The group discussed the issue and no action was taken to ban naked children at this time. Another resident reported that some pond visitors ignore the "No Parking" restrictions. The resident was encouraged to call the Mashpee police for enforcement.

The Chair reported that the roads are in good condition and the new road done two years ago has stood up well and saved the village about \$100,000. She reported that two drains overflowed in the recent downpours. These drains will be cleaned again soon. Some drainage issues are the result of drains overflowing on Glenneagle.

The Chair asked attendees for their opinion on allowing New Seabury Corporation to conduct yoga paddle-board lessons twice weekly on Fells Pond. The lessons would be offered exclusively to New Seabury club members for a fee. After discussion, attendees decided unanimously to deny the request to use the pond for this purpose.

Tom Caston spoke about the efforts of Special Maintenance to maintain the appearance of the community. Mike Richardson was unable to attend. Tom informed the attendees that after a long and concerted effort the town approved a new cell phone tower to be built adjacent to the Mashpee Fire Station on Red Brook Road. This should provide much improved cellular service to New Seabury. The Cottages have about 42 homes built and 23 sold. Activity has been slow over the last five months. There are plans to add recreation facilities including a playground, bocce and basketball courts. These will be restricted to use by Club members only.

Resident Input

Concerns were raised about the speed of vehicles on the village roads and the danger to walkers. No clear solutions were identified and it was noted that efforts to reduce speeds (speed tables, signage, etc.) has not solved the problem. Residents were urged to show respect for each other by driving slowly and walking single file against traffic.

Several residents commented on the new improvements to the village and expressed thanks to Tom Caston and Catherine Power for their efforts to beautify Fells Pond Village.

A resident requested that there be a crosswalk marked at Greensward Circle. Tom Caston endorsed the idea and asked the resident to help him identify the best way to cross at this intersection. One particularly brilliant idea was to look

into an on-demand light that walkers could illuminate to indicate that they are crossing. At other times the light would be dark.

Marie Candura suggested that a stop sign be erected at the intersection of Cross Road and Fells Pond Road. Traffic exiting from the new section of the Cottages do not have to stop until after crossing Cross Road. There have been several close calls already.

June Levy requested that stations be installed so people walking their dogs would not need to bring the waste to their homes. After discussion, it was determined that this would require regular maintenance and cleaning so was determined not to be feasible.

A resident asked if the gas lights could be electrified and fitted with LED bulbs. Tom Caston answered that the issue involves the lack of electric service adjacent to the posts. He reported that the gas company is slow to respond to requests for repairs to gas supply lines.

A resident asked about a home that was in a state of neglect. The issue was referred to the ARC. This was also an opportunity to introduce Tom Bone who will now be in charge of the ARC. A resident suggested that conducting a property survey was an important first step before beginning any work since there are some strange lot lines.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

We had a very successful meeting and I want to thank all who attended. As I have said many times before – I feel we have the best village and the best neighbors here in Fells Pond (no offense to other villages!). Enjoy the remainder of the summer and fall!!

Catherine Power