

**November 20, 2014 - Fresh Pond Master Plan Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes – by Sam Corda**

Advisory Board Members in Attendance:

Janice Snow (Chair), Jim Barton, Susan Agger, Dave Kaplan, Ted Pickering, Jim Tanner (for Ann Roosevelt), Deborah Masterson, Paul Ryder, Claudia Thompson, Janet Burns and Doug Brown

Advisory Board Members Not in Attendance:

Jennifer Letourneau and Ann Roosevelt

Water Department in Attendance:

Sam Corda, Tim MacDonald and Vinnie Falcione

City Manager's Office in Attendance:

Taha Jennings

Public in Attendance:

Kathleen Kelly

Meeting Chair: Janice Snow

Meeting opened at 6:05 PM

Meeting minutes: S. Corda

Item 1: Review Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda

Item 2: Meeting Minutes

Ted Pickering moved and Jim Barton seconded the motion to approve the September 18, 2014 meeting minutes as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion

Item 3: Watershed Manager's Report

The Kingsley Park Project phase 1 construction contract is coming to a close. We are working with the contractor on punch list items and work is to be finished in the spring. There is a one year general warrantee and three years of maintenance on plants, invasive removal and paving.

The consultant is re-scoping the Drainage/Community Garden Project to move the perimeter path out and to relocate the community garden closer to the plant.

The Black's Nook Phase III Project on invasive plant removal is being successively worked on by volunteers.

Item 4: Landscape Maintenance Update

Volunteers are working with Jean Rogers on mulch placement within the Reservation. Kirsten Lindquist is working with the Rindge and Latin High School to continue the Purple Loosestrife Bio-Control Project.

Continuing the Ash and Hemlock tree treatments and the Reservation “winterization” which consists of blowing down and shutting off the bubblers and irrigation systems.

We will not be sanding the porous pavement and will try to leave a strip of snow for cross country skiers within the perimeter path.

Item 5: Report on 2014 Cambridge Public Schools Ecology Education Projects at the Reservation

Susan Agger summarized that the Grade 6 children looked at biodiversity of the butterfly meadow with a focus on plants. They also took core samples, performed perk tests and looked at various habitats within the Reservation.

Item 6: Signage Pilot

The latest version of the Maher Park and Lusitania Meadow “Area Features” signs were reviewed. Changes were suggested relating to readability relating to items such as font size, spacing and bullet type and size with the base size of this particular sign category to be 11”x17”. It was also requested that the signs be electronically sent to both Jim Barton and Claudia Thompson for additional comment.

Item 7: FY16 Budget and Review Process relating to Master Plan Projects

The second phase of the Kingsley Park and the Glacken Slope Phase 5 projects will be moving further out in time. The Old Birch Grove should be considered as a future project to consider. The design of the Drainage/Community Garden project is moving forward. This will include the relocation of both the perimeter path and the community garden.

Item 8: Rail Road Right of Way Report

The Board has concern for the multi-use path relating to its proximity to the Reservoir, safety and the lighting thereof. It was decided that the Fresh Pond Advisory Board would schedule an additional meeting to further discuss this City/DCR project. A meeting was scheduled for January 8, 2015 at 6:00pm at the Water Department.

Item 9: Proposed Annual Spring Nature Event Honoring Chip Norton

There was discussion about what kind of an event could be developed to honor Chip Norton’s contributions to the Reservation - this discussion will continue.

Item 10: March 19th Preliminary Agenda

Have a January 8, 2015 meeting on the railroad right-of-way, Watershed update, Signage Pilot update, annually honoring Chip Norton, Project updates: design, construction, timetable, etc.

Item 11: Public Comment

Kathleen Kelly, a visitor/volunteer whom replanted/weeded and maintained the “island” of vegetation near the beach on Little Fresh Pond introduced herself and explained the work she had done to restore the planted island.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm