

## **September 20, 2018 - Fresh Pond Reservation Master Plan Advisory Board Minutes**

Submitted: Sam Corda – November 15, 2018

### **Advisory Board Members in Attendance:**

Janice Snow (Chair), David Kaplan, Jim Barton, Janet Burns, Adam Corbeil, Jennifer Letourneau, Candace Young, Claudia Thompson and Susan Agger

### **Advisory Board Members Not in Attendance:**

Purvi Patel, Deborah Masterson, Ann Roosevelt and Jamie Porreca

### **Water Department in Attendance:**

Sam Corda, Vincent Falcione and Jamie O'Connell

### **Others in Attendance:**

Martha Stearns

Meeting opened at 6:05 pm

Meeting Minutes: S. Corda

### **Item 1: Review Agenda**

No changes

### **Item 2: New Advisory Board Member representing Committee on Public Planting (Sophia Emperador Schrauwen)**

Sophia could not attend the meeting

### **Item 3: Meeting Minutes**

Jim Barton moved and Candace Young seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2018 meeting as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

### **Item 4: Tour of Drainage and Community Garden Project**

Dave Kaplan led a tour of the Drainage and Community Garden Project including the new Perimeter Road segment over the old railroad tracks, new wetland structure replacing the old Perimeter Road, new native plantings, hummocks and handicapped-accessible, raised garden plots. The Board returned to the treatment plant at ~6:50pm

### **Item 5: Eco-Counter/Fresh Pond User Report**

Jamie O'Connell presented the 2017 Annual User Census, Data Summary based on both eco-counters and human visual surveys. Sensors are located at 3 reservation entrances, 2 Perimeter Road locations (Little Fresh Pond, and near the Ranger Station), and one on the DCR parkway bike path. Sensors include motion and heat detectors that log data at 15 minutes intervals. Visual surveys at the same locations often found higher usage. Daily use averages about 1100 visitors, mainly walkers and runners. Busiest hours were from 9 am to noon and from 3 pm to 5pm. April and September were the busiest months followed by June and August. Saturday and Sunday were the busiest days of the week. See the link below for the full report.

[https://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/waterdepartment/Watershed/Programs/censusprogram/2017\\_Final\\_ExecSummary.pdf?la=en](https://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/waterdepartment/Watershed/Programs/censusprogram/2017_Final_ExecSummary.pdf?la=en)

**Item 6: Watershed Managers Report**

*Landscape Maintenance:* Aeration, slice seeding, and fertilization is ongoing. Restoration of the historic stone overlooks at Kingsley Park has been completed and working to stabilize downslope of the overlooks.

*Black's Nook Fencing:* Black chain link fencing is to be installed in the spring of 2019.

*DCR Greenway:* Work has started, cleaning up the area, removing ties and rails and grading the route. The Electrical Department has set up three sample light poles and fixtures at Danehy Park as a pilot. A public meeting on the need for such light fixtures in the pine forest has not yet been scheduled.

*Stewardship plant list update:* An edited version of the May 18, 2018, 2<sup>nd</sup> draft Master Plant List should be available in a few weeks and will be reviewed in a future Board planting committee meeting.

**Item 7: Long Term Master Plan Projects: Annual Update**

The following is the best estimate of the future schedule of work to be performed within the Fresh Pond Reservation. The project schedules will ultimately be based on funding availability.

- 1) FY19/FY20: Initiate Black's Nook investigation as to what we may need to do to prevent eutrophication of the pond. Perform testing and evaluation in the spring and a recommendation on how to move forward in the summer of 2019. Implementation/construction in FY20/FY21.
- 2) FY20/FY21: Perform an existing condition assessment (to include an ecological assessment) of the Pine Forest. Also develop a design for the Perimeter Road adjacent to the Pine Forest – the existing stabilized aggregate path.
- 3) FY21/FY22: Construction of phase I of the Pine Forest Project – Pond to the DCR Greenway - tree and wetland border.
- 4) FY22/FY23: Construction of phase II of the Pine Forest Project – Pine Forest.
- 5) FY24 and beyond: Kingsley Park Phase 2 – slope restoration and phase 3 -lower pathway
- 6) During the above projects we need to continue, as appropriate, the Circulation and Access Planning.

**Item 8: Fresh Pond Day Report**

The day went well and was well attended. Many visitors were from outside of Cambridge. We had hoped to see more children in attendance, particularly at the Maynard Ecology table. The eco-counters indicated between 1800 and 2200 “ticks” (Visitors).

**Item 9: Preliminary Agenda for November 15, 2018 Advisory Board Meeting**

Ideas for renaming the “Drainage and Community Garden” area: Signage Update including naming and signage for Parkway watershed protection area; Watershed Manager Report; Invasive animal and plant species

**Item 10: Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

Janice Snow moved, and David Kaplan seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.