**Dudley Pond Association Executive Committee Board Meeting**

**Sept 14, 2021**

(via Google Meet)

Attendees: Doron Almog, Eric Macklin, Jamie Pierce, Lisa Jacobs, Tim Dreher, Naomi Deutscher. Guests: Bob Smith, Norm Marowitz, Ann Drouilhet, Marcia Filiurin, Evan Hadingham, Karen Farhner, Gloria Broderick, Fred Pearson

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm.

**Agenda items:**

Fun Run

Trees that have fallen into Pond

Harvesting Solution

**Fun Run**

We are trying to come up with an event to replace the Fun Run. There weren’t too many people available on Sept. 19 so we will postpone it til Oct. 17. With good weather, we hope to have a walk around the pond followed by a gathering on Mansion Beach where we will hand out dilly bars and water. Lisa will alert the membership of the date change and she will contact the Board of Health to see if a health permit is required to hand out individually wrapped ice cream bars.

**Trees that have fallen into Dudley Pond**

Ann Drouillhet, a DPA member asked to join the call to talk about trees that have fallen into Dudley Pond. She asked whether the DPA could assist local homeowners who want to remove those trees from the pond. The expense is for each individual homeowner. Conservation would advise keeping the tree in the pond unless it poses a danger. A discussion followed about what the DPA role should be and we decided that we could help them identify resources to use, but not help financially. One downside to the fallen trees is that it makes it harder for the Harvester to reach certain areas of the pond.

**Harvesting the Pond**

After using a Harvester to cut the tapegrass in August, Norm Marowitz and Bob Smith started discussing ownership of our own harvester. Norm, who sits on the Wayland Surface Water Quality Committee (WSWQC), had been exploring options where the town of Wayland would buy a Harvester for us to use on Dudley Pond. All town committees have to go through a capital budgeting process involving a multi-year decision process that includes approval at town meetings so that option didn’t gain any traction. However, the harvester that we used this summer is for sale and it has been completely refurbished. Purchasing our own harvester would allow us to schedule the work when the weeds need to be cut. In the past, when using outside contractors, we had to schedule the harvesting a few months in advance. If we didn’t accurately predict the timing or type of the weed explosion, we would be wasting that resource.

The harvester will cost around $80,000 and we are talking to the DPW about operating, maintaining, and storing it **which the DPA does not want to do.** By purchasing the harvester, the DPA would then lease it out to the Town to remove our weeds. That yearly lease income could provide a 3-5 year payback of our original investment. Norm will meet with WSWQC tomorrow nite to discuss. He’ll then create a proposal that will show how we can reduce the total costs to the town and to the DPA. The DPA membership will need to vote on an expenditure this size and we will bring it up at the Oct. 24 Fall meeting.

The Town of Wellesley owns and operates its own harvester and Norm has been in contact with them to get their experience and cost savings. Jamie Pierce will look into insurance and Bob Smith will help Norm with the numbers.

We will hold a special board meeting on Sept. 28 to gather all the info that is still unknown. We would like to vote on this purchase at the Oct. 24 meeting so we will provide a detailed proposal in the upcoming newsletter and send an eblast to the membership before the meeting.

**Other items**

Ann Drouillhet told the board that a piece of property at 108 Dudley Road was purchased by a developer who plans to build a house on it. This property is the circle inside the road that goes around Dudley Road and the end of the peninsula. This property normally would not be developable but easements were granted on the property across the street, 127 Dudley Road, which goes down to the pond. The DPA is not sure how it can be involved but agreed to take a look at the letter that Ann and all the abutters plan to send to the town.

Next meeting: Sept. 28, 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Jacobs,

Secretary