



**BUCKINGHAM POND CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES (revised)**

**April 29, 2024**

**Pine Hills Library, Meeting 7:00**

**Meeting Attendees:** Gabi Sarhos, Nancy Costello, Grace Bennett, Marsha Penrose, Laura Andrea Leguia, Anne Savage, Jenny O'Neill, Felton McLaughlin, Linda Wagner, and Jeanette Carioto

**Absentees:** Mark Schlessman, Kate Carleo

The Board welcomed new President, Grace Bennett, and the Board Governance suggestions listed in the March meeting minutes were reviewed (clarifications and additions highlighted).

**1. Committees and Project Management**

**a. Park Stewards–Laura**

*Native Planting Project*

*Laura will set up a date with Jessica for a tour of the project.*

*Tour can include interested Board members and anyone else interested*

**b. CSLAP–Felton, Grace, Gabi (Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program)**

*This work will resume in June and run through September.*

**c. Playground–Al Lawrence – No Action**

**d. Website–Gabi**

*Linda will work on content.*

*Gabi will give website training to Linda, and perhaps Grace.*

*Gabi will make a ZOOM for easy access to video on website use.*

*Results of the recent Board election should be on website and in email blast.*

**e. Annual meeting bulk mailing–Anne**

*Anne will finish CiviCRM switchover, then update Grace who will show Kate.*

*Anne will train Grace (and anyone else?) to do email blasts.*

**f. Social Media–Jeanette**

*Jeanette will deal with Facebook and Instagram when she gets the passwords.*

**g. City Liason–Felton, and Gabi to introduce Grace.**

*Gabi will be point person to city gardener, Jena Commerford (knotweed problem).  
Gabi will also be point person to Alex Word and Commissioners (firepit problem).  
Gabi will put Grace in touch with Jeff Kelly who works under the Commissioner.  
Laura will be point person to Jeff Kelly (DGS) and arrange introduction to Grace.  
Develop checklist boxes for consultation with the City for any given project.  
President, Vice President and people involved should have access to checklists.  
Board members can get non-generic email addresses.*

**h. Grants–Linda**

*Linda will work on grant applications.*

*Checklists for applications as well as walkarounds need to be developed.*

**i. Membership–Grace**

*Kate will be backup for membership data entry.*

**j. Insurance– Felton will look into insurance options and report.**

**k. Signage - Gabi**

*Gabi will order corkboards for two new signs.*

*Potential signage could include carefully worded information on BPC/City's roles.*

*Add "See something, say something to City" info to email blasts' header/footer.*

*Mark will report on tree tags at the next meeting; posts about the trees needed.*

**l. Trails–Board**

*Same problems for years; regular DGS walkarounds needed.*

*Path is muddy and frequently used materials wash into the pond.*

*Mulch on path would necessitate reapplications and washout potential unknown.*

*Question raised about using grant money for stabilization.*

*Rubberized material experimented between the two ponds has held up.*

*Previous exploration of this material determined an estimate of \$500,000.*

*Need a site plan identifying problem areas and getting them on the map.*

**2. Meeting Minutes**

**VOTE:** Minutes of the March 25 Board meeting were accepted.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

- In presenting handouts of the treasurer's report, Jenny mentioned that she would like to eliminate some bank accounts.
- **VOTE:** The treasurer's report was accepted with corrected improvements allocation.
- **VOTE:** The board voted yes to adding the new president, Grace, as a signer of our Broadview checking account.
- Someone needs to go to the bank, have the paperwork ready and with them, and provide the minutes. Then the current signers need to sign it (to be done at the June 2 meeting).

## **5. Spring Cleanup Recap**

The weather was not entirely favorable, but six neighbors and four Board members participated. New evidence of fire pit use was noted.

## **6. Update of Jessica Marsico Native Planting and Shoreline Stabilization Work**

- Laura presented a detailed handout of the gardener's work. Questions were raised about Sumac trees obstructing views on the north side of the pond. Laura described various concepts of view preservation. She reported that the existing trees will not be removed, but more will not be added.
- The update stated that there is much more work still to be done, especially when it comes to removing large invasives. Jessica has been successful in starting a working relationship with DGS, and Jeff Kelly is said to be on board with having a crew help her remove the largest buckthorns and honeysuckles.
- Before the Board votes on further allocation of funds by email or at the next meeting, there needs to be a tour of what's been done, possibly open to the membership. Also, documentation is necessary to share with the City.

Meeting adjourned 8:30

Next Meeting June 3, 7:15-8:45 at the PH Library (monitor should be requested)