



## BUCKINGHAM POND CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING

October 28, 2024

Zoom, 7PM

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

**Absentees:** Kate Carleo, Mark Schlessman, Gabi Sarhos

### 1. Meeting Minutes:

- **VOTE** The minutes of the September 23 Board meeting were accepted.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented by Jenny.

- Minus figures are in fact "set-asides" rather than negatives.
- Little Free Library expense to be moved to the playground figure.
- Legal and professional services are from website development.
- Some unencumbered funds should be in interest-bearing acct.
- First Grace and Jenny have to go to the bank in person.
- Jenny can get the necessary documents around to other signers.
- **VOTE:** Authorization was given to move \$35,000 to a Broadview CD.
- **VOTE:** The Treasurer's report was accepted.

### 3. Grants Follow-up:

- Common Roots grant, if granted, is to be used for signage work.
- County grant of \$19,000 is to be used for Jessica's work.
- Detailed and specific accountability is needed in the future.
- Need follow-up email to Martin Daly to provide cover if audited.

### 4. Annual Meeting/Mailing:

- Objections raised to previously scheduled Saturday, March 29.
- Libraries are the only known sites that don't require event insurance.
- Delaware branch is open Sundays, but the meeting room is smaller.
- Library can only be reserved 90 days before, so at the end of Dec.
- Anne will find out from her contact if Steamer 10 is a possibility.

- Large mailing of the entire neighborhood should be done this year.
- This fundraising mailing will be done at the end of this year.
- The message will include “Your donation includes membership”.
- Email and/or postcard mailing to be done closer to the meeting.
- Grace and Nancy will write the letter; Anne will do the mailing.
- Future mailings could include educational info about BPC.
- **VOTE**: Up to \$3500 was allotted for the large Annual Meeting mailing.

#### 5. Updates:

1. Trail/path – Not Discussed
2. Playground Maintenance – AI says the City's waiting for parts.
3. NYSFOLA – **VOTE**: Renewal approved for \$250. CSLAP will be free in 2025.
4. Trees - Alex and Grace reported from the CANA meeting with Jay LaVigne (city forester) that Albany now has an inventory of all its trees, and the City will be pruning on a 4-year cycle for all trees. If someone feels there are dead branches that are dangerous, they should report them via See Click Fix.
5. Signage – Not Discussed.
6. Events & Cleanups – Fall cleanup had 6 volunteers who worked on tulips, invasive vines, and mulching the playground.
7. Shoreline – Laura will ask Jessica to provide reports detailed with date, actual time worked, and activity.
  - a. The areas she's worked on are in need of maintenance.
  - b. She could extend by 20 hours at \$60 an hour.
  - c. Laura will get details and send out an email for a vote.
  - d. More than 5 hrs a week will be needed in the spring.
  - e. Gabi sent Laura a link for chain-and-post sets.
  - f. Grace will find out if DGS has some that BPC can use.
8. Membership – **UPDATE** Grace reported 235 members
9. Volunteers and Stewards – Not Discussed
10. Social Media – There has been a great deal of positive feedback about Jeanette's postings.
11. Website Update – Not Discussed

#### 6. New Business:

1. Grace will contact Shaker High student, Hannah Berkun, about her project to study algae blooms.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM. Next Board meeting, December 9 by ZOOM