

Draft copy of March 11th, 2013 Minutes of Water Mill CAC
Minutes are not official until reviewed by WMCAC members and
approved at next scheduled meeting
Web site-www.ourwatermill.org

Members present: Steve Abramson, Marlene Haresign, Steve Lerner, Gloria Rabinowitz and Rik Kristiansson

Mill Pond – Phoslock Treatment Approved

Steve Abramson presented the latest update on Mill Pond's Remediation and informed the members that the Town Board would be voting on this at their Board Meeting on March 12.

All signs pointed to an approval of this Phoslock Application.

Since our meeting the Town Board has approved this plan and the first application of Phoslock will be made in April.

How to Handle Future Treatments, If & When Needed

After Steve filled in members, a discussion followed with regard to paying for additional Phoslock treatments in the future - if and when needed. It is not anticipated that any additional treatment will be needed until perhaps three-to-five years after the second application of Phoslock in 2014, i.e., perhaps 2017 to 2019.

Those present expressed the opinion that a special Tax District (other than the current Water Mill Park District which has very specific responsibilities) could be established to cover any such expense, if and when it is determined that an additional application of Phoslock will be needed, using the borders of Water Mill as defined by the 11976 zip code. It was suggested that an inquiry be made of the Town Supervisor's office to ascertain the assessed valuation of the proposed 11976 tax district, and to ask for the Town's calculation of the tax levy required per \$1,000 assessed valuation for a \$50,000 expense.

Cleaning of Storm Drains Now.

It was also noted that the storm drains, particularly on Deerfield Road, need to be cleared of debris. This should be attended to immediately, to control storm-water runoff into Mill Pond at the time that measurements are being taken of phosphorus and algae levels. CAC Corresponding Sec'y, Gloria Rabinowitz, will contact Town engineer's office to inquire on status of Deerfield Rd storm water abatement project. The hope would be that the storm water abatement plan for Deerfield Rd would address and solve this ongoing issue of the existing storm drains being continually clogged. Rachel will also contact the Hwy Supt. Office about requesting a clean up of those drains.

Town Councilman Nuzzi's resolution requiring applicants to seek a use variance before the ZBA or apply to the Town Board rather than have ZBA allow changing one nonconforming use for another was discussed and CAC members agreed to write a letter of support when public hearing for this resolution is scheduled.

Any Other Business:

A CAC member who lives on Mill Pond Rd noted that lights at Water Mill Station complex were on until 12:30 AM due to change to daylight savings time. CAC corresponding Sec'y said she would contact owner to correct this and inquire as to whether the lights could be turned off at 9:30 PM as was previously requested since no tenants are currently in the buildings.

(Note: Dennis Susskind, owner, has agreed to turn off lights at 9:30 PM until tenant requirements change.)

Minutes taken by Gloria Rabinowitz –see Addendum below:

Addendum to Minutes:

Below, as an addendum to the minutes, please find Steve Abramson’s write up of the outcome from the Town Board Meeting the day after our CAC meeting. Four members of the CAC attended this Town Board meeting:

“On Tuesday, 03/12, the Town Board approved a resolution authorizing the execution of the contract with SePRO for the 2-year Phoslock treatment of Mill Pond to commence early April. The staged 2-year investment linked to performance of this treatment will be \$434,000. (\$200,000, off-budget, has been contributed by a homeowner on Mecox Bay plus \$50,000 will be contributed by the Town Trustees, who resolved on Monday to make this investment.) The contract calls for staged payments linked to performance guarantees:

<u>2013 (Year 1 treatment, \$283,000)</u>		<u>Town’s On-Budget Expense</u>
Mecox Bay contributor	(-\$200,000)	
Town Trustees contribution	(-\$ 50,000)	
Upon signing	\$ 24,000	\$ -0-
30 days after completion	\$187,000	\$ -0-
Sept., 2013, <i>if performance met</i> *	\$ 72,000	\$ 33,000
 <u>2014 (Year 2 treatment)</u>		
Jan., 2014, <i>if performance met</i> *	\$100,000	\$100,000
Oct., 2014, <i>if performance met</i> *	\$ 51,000	<u>\$ 51,000</u>
 <u>Total Town On-Budget Expense, <i>if performance met</i>*</u>		 \$184,000

- These conditional payments are based upon metrics established for phosphorus (reduction) concentrations and presence (low levels) of cyanobacteria, blue-green algae.

At the Tuesday Town Board meeting, Steve Abramson read the following in appreciation to the Town Board:

Rachel Carson wrote, “But man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself.”

Decades of research have led to this Town Board decision. We now understand the cause and effect of man’s phosphorus pollution on our inland waters. Today, this Town Board is taking action to reverse the man-made pollution of this fresh water resource, Mill Pond.

On behalf of the WMCAC and Friends of Lake Nowedonah, I would like to express our deep appreciation of the Town Board’s decision to invest in the remediation of Mill Pond. Our thanks also to the Town Trustees, in particular Trustee Fred Havemeyer, for the Trustees dedication to this effort and their monetary contribution. Our appreciation goes also to the Mecox Bay homeowner whose generous contribution has made this investment easier.

Mill Pond is an important environmental asset. In the past, this fresh water lake has been a favorite pond for fishing clubs, and we look forward to a restored bass fishery in the not too distant future. Twenty-five years ago Mill Pond was a wonderful lake in which to swim, and we look forward to that opportunity again soon.

Your decision represents a significant investment in a clear waters initiative by this Town Board, and we commend you for it. Thank you.