

Forest Hills Westwood Park Meeting from Saturday, July
30th 4pm Minutes

attendees:

Chuck & Corey Scorce
David & Deborah Messinger
Tom & Marilyn Hamilton
Bill & Catherine Woznicki
Tim & Margaret Henry
Mimi Bodgan
Maryann Connolly
Karin Kacprzyński
Linda Dunn
Sue Donaldson
Tom Quinn

Goal of the meeting was to establish priorities and next steps for the Westwood Park area. There are presently 3 main areas of concern:

1. the pond (flooding, ascetics, ecosystem)
2. the perimeter of the Westwood Park (weeds, debris)
3. the woods (re-forestation planning)

The Pond:

Long term, we need to present a plan to the town that has the consensus of the neighborhood. Our hope is to come up with a plan that will remove potential flooding issues, significantly reduce mosquito infestation, reduce duck weed and algae, eliminate cat tails and to create a healthy ecosystem. Some things we discussed were the effects of a permanent pump positioned in Westwood pond to drain into the Lake Crescent pond above certain levels and the possibility of raising the road to prevent flooding (this would be done when new roads are put in--2-4yrs from now). We also discussed how the town might be willing to help in reshaping the pond to create a more healthy ecosystem & to eliminate unwanted swamp growth (this may be difficult). We considered which was more of a problem, the storm drains or the pond in regards to flooding. We agreed many plantings needed to be moved to safer, drier ground. Interim ideas for adding a fountain, fish and good aquatic life such as lilly pads were discussed. We also wondered what effect the (soon to be) development across Fairport Rd would have on our 2 ponds. Bottom line, we need to establish a short term 2-4 yr plan and long term plan that we can work with the town. Our first step will be to add fish.

The Perimeter:

Special thanks were noted to Debi & David Messinger and also to Lucy and Don Richards for raking the gravel and donating/planting ferns and hostas on our SE corner of Westwood Park. We still need more dirt and mulch to clean up the area. The perimeter will also be weed wacked Thursday Aug 4th by our mowing contractor.

The Woods:

Some plantings did not make it through our winter and will need to be replaced by Frank Fullreader. Our 5 yr re-forestation plan needs to be revisited in lieu of the new pond water height.

Of Note:

Neighbors also mentioned that they would like to be

notified of all Officer meetings with an agenda and open invitation to attend (and also have results of meetings distributed). It was mentioned that neighbors would like to be better informed, but that many neighbors do not participate in meetings or events and miss many opportunities to receive information. Karin would like to suggest starting a forest hills web site that could always contain up to date information (this was not discussed at the meeting).

Action Items:

Tom H: Contact F. Fullreader to move plantings now under water, contact the town to request one truck load of dirt and mulch for SE corner, contact town to set up initial meeting to hear details of any road work in planning, contact town to treat arborviti bushes.

Tim H: To investigate installing a fountain for the Westwood pond to keep water circulating.

Karin K: To contact Jan Horton and Cornell Coop to get aquatic expert in to review healthy options for our pond.

Chuck S: To get fish to put in the Westwood pond to help eat mosquitoes and keep water circulating better.

Tom Q: To take the lead on any town road work meetings and to fix the broken sign on Ridgeview.