

## Newton Upper Falls Area Council – Minutes

**DATE:** May 7, 2020

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Zoom meeting

+16468769923,,714158912# US (New York)

**Meeting called to order:** 7:04 pm

**Members in Attendance:**

Anil Adyanthaya (President)

Kathaleen Brearley

Jeff Riklin (Vice President)

Patty Connolly (Secretary)

Marie Jackson

Jack Neville

Jay Werb

Bill Humphrey (Ex Officio)

Carol Stapleton

**Public attendees:**

Emily Kaye Gelbert

Jerry Reilly

**A. Approval of Minutes from April Meeting & May 7th Meeting**

Marie Jackson motioned to approve the April Area Council Meeting Minutes.

The motion 2nd by Jeff Riklin.

Jeff Riklin motioned to approve the May 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 Area Council Meeting Minutes after removing agenda from the minutes. Motion 2nd by Jay Werb. Approved unanimously.

**B. Treasurer's Report (5 minutes)**

No updates

**C. COVID-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program (Councilor Humphrey)**

City councilor Bill Humphrey Spoke about the Newton Rental assistance program

- Deadline to apply was June 3<sup>rd</sup> (Extended to 6/15/2020)
- Avalon Apartments have not been included in flyer outreach to date.
- Marie Jackson suggested reaching out to the reception office
- There is 2.5 million dollars available in the fund.
  - .5 million is from Federal Government
  - 2 million from community preservation funds.
- Bill explained the city does not have list of rental properties.

- Bill distributed over 400 flyers across ward 5
- CPA dollars can only be used for mortgage assistance if there are deed restrictions.
- Kathy Winters sent the information to her contacts from her campaign.
- Marie Jackson shared other communication methods to get the word out included Facebook groups; *Newton Parents*, *Newton Parents of Teens* and *Neighbor to Neighbor*.
- Anil asked specifically the groups targeted and fill the gap of elderly.
- Bill explained the funds are specifically for assistance for residents impacted by COVID.
- Bill felt that the list of targeted outreach was both inclusive and exclusive.
- Marie Jackson suggested the use of a bill board. This is helpful for individuals who are not on line. Jeff Riklin will put out the sandwich board. Bill Humphrey will provide the content for the sign.

#### **Other COVID-19 Issues for Upper Falls**

The Next Door Newton a help map. There has not been many request for help according to the facilitators.

Marie shared the Neighbors helping Neighbors Facebook page has been very active and response.

Paper bags are still in need for Center Street Food Pantry.

#### **D. Discussion of status of Village Day & other city events**

- Village Day Scheduled for September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Boston Marathon was scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Jerry Reilly – First Drive-In Concert coming in June.
- Feast in the Falls home edition
- Drive in Movie Theatre proposed later this summer

#### **E. Brian E. Yates Memorial**

##### 1. Cost/Design

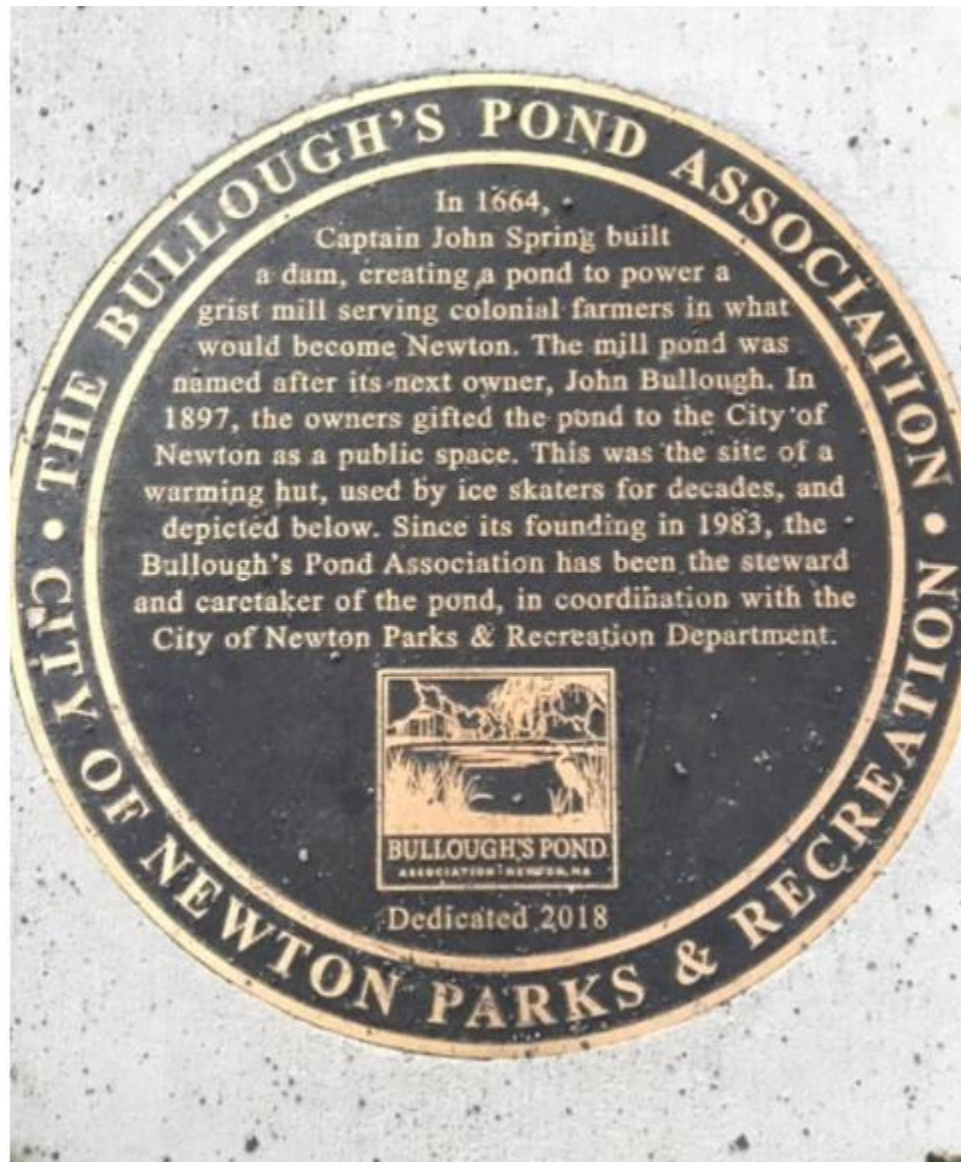
- Anil reached out to company Lubens per Carol Stapleton’s suggestion
- Plaque with Brass image of Brian Yates with text estimated cost \$4800.00.
- Size of plaque 24 x 36 and weighs about 100 lbs.
- The size may be too big for the front of The Depot.
- Call for a picture of Brian Yates for memorial.

##### 2. Wording Update

The proposed text for the plaque was discussed:

**“Cofounder and First President of the Upper Falls Community Development Corporation”**

Carol Stapleton suggested looking at the plaque at Bullough’s Pond.  
(Pictures courtesy of Emily Gelbert)





**F. Ken Newcomb Upper Falls Book Award**

There have been no applicants for the award for the second year in a row. Suggestion to delay for another month and post another communication at Newton South. Jeff Riklin will reach out to his contacts at Newton South.

**G. Construction Liaison Meeting – Area Councilor Jay Werb drafted a letter**

Summary: Request of the Mayor to commence community engagement during the demolition phase. The board order states community engagement will start 2 months prior to construction. Demolition is not part of construction.

Marie Jackson motioned to send the letter written by Jay Werb on behalf of the Newton Upper Falls Area council. Jeff Riklin seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

**H. Adjourn – motion to adjourn** Jeff Riklin motioned to adjourn and seconded by Marie Jackson.

Meeting adjourned 8:04 pm.

Next Meeting June 18, 2020 at 7:00 pm.