

**MINUTES**  
**FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK**  
**June 7, 2015**

The meeting, which began at 7:00 p.m., was held on the porch of Karen Grossman's condo, overlooking Spy Pond.

PRESENT- Karen Grossman, President; Deepak Bidwai, Jaua Bidwai, Ellen Robertson, Marshall McCloskey, Elizabeth Karpati, Ruth Slotnick, Lally Stowell, Dick Norcross, Fred Moses, Bev Williams. We enjoyed watching the sunset over the pond. People expressed appreciation at all the work done of the last Work Day, and the park full of happy families for Fun Day.

MINUTES of April 26, 2015 were approved as circulated.

TREASURER- Marshall reported at total of 64 responses from the May fundraising mailing. We received \$500 from Harvard Pilgrim; a donor had requested the match to come to FSPP. Current balance: \$20,401.57. The use of bulk mail went well and is less costly. Marshall has filed all the necessary tax forms. RE: fundraising letters - We suggested that the second letter add clarification that this is the second appeal in the calendar year. Motion to buy a new and easier to erect and take down PASSED. Until interest rates improve, we DECIDED to leave the funds in the bank. Some other funds had high costs for handling funds.

BEAUTIFICATION- Lally explained that committee members walk the park the week of Work Days and decide what needs to be accomplished. There are no groups signed up for June and July; we will rely on regular volunteers. Karen make a large sign pointing to the toilet, and extra supplies were purchased for Fun Day. Bev notified the Town re: a broken lock on the toilet; it was repaired temporarily. Newsletters have been posted on the bulletin boards. Ellen will work with Gail McCormick regarding NO BICYCLES signs in the park. There is concern for safety with cyclists riding along the path through the park.

ART ROCKS SPY POND - Art installation was enjoyed by many in Town. We discussed the purchase of a piece (fish sculpture is supposedly \$8,000; too high for our budget.) We feel that the first obligation would be to help pay for the swan sculpture. Unfortunately, the artists themselves must carry expensive insurance for these pieces of art. DEFACEMENT OF ART - When the committee walked through the park before the last work day, they were distressed by offensive language defacing one of the paintings of people in the park. Police were notified, and the artist repainted over the words. Karen read a fine group letter, which she had signed on behalf of FSPP. The letter will be published in the Arlington Advocate, and the Human Rights Commission will address the troubling issue.

WEBSITE - Fred took pictures of Fun Day and will post on the website. Deepak is working to connect our site to mobile devices.

OUTREACH - Elaine Crowder helped Pinal with fliers for Fund Day; good publicity for the event. Karen will thank participants in letter to editor and newsletter article. Feast of the East is June 13; Sally will be in charge. September 19 will be the Moonlight Beach Party. Each park has been asked to provide a basket for the auction, but last year we bought an entire table. Karen will ask which merchants will be contacted so there is not overlap. NEEDED - a videographer (Mithilesh has moved to NJ) and a fundraising chair.

SPRING NEWSLETTER was great! Deadline for the summer issue is June 15th.

OTHER BUSINESS - suggestion to spend some of our money to purchase additional benches for the park. Karen will ask at the next Parks Commission.

NEXT MEETING will be on Sunday, August 2 at 7pm; 32 Hamilton Road #402, Arlington  
Respectfully submitted, Beverly E. Williams, Secretary