

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING March 7, 2010

In attendance: Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, Margaret Moore, Doris Birmingham, Eric Berger, Betsy Vanderlay, Lidrette Andre, George Berbarian, Lally Stowell, Greg Watt, Fred Moses, Jane Whitmore, DP Powell, Nedret Andre

The **minutes** of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's report:

Karen submitted a grant to NEGEFF which would supplement the \$750 grant from the Arlington Cultural Society.

Nedret applied for a \$5000 grant from New England Foundation for the Arts to fund Arlington Creates- a collection of people's videotaped stories and oral histories about the Pond that would then be available for Podcast on ArlingtonCreates.com. The idea is to bring the public together to create art and share how they interact with Spy Pond. She hopes to have a decision on her grant application by the end of April.

A motion was made and accepted to use Network for Good to allow people to make direct contributions to FSPP via the website. Network for Good charges a 3% processing fee, and Mystic River Watershed uses this service.

CD / Checking account balance: not available.

The 2009 Public Charities Report is due in January 2010. The 2008 report is a year overdue, and Jane will follow up with Eric Bates to complete these reports.

Jane offered to enter the dues and financial contributions into the database.

Park maintenance:

The Beautification Committee is comprised of Gail McCormack, Elizabeth Karpati, and Doris Birmingham. They developed the following schedule of work days:

Spring / Summer Work Schedule:

- 4/10/10 Saturday 1-4PM, (Sunday 1-4 if it rains)
- 5/1/10 Saturday 1-4PM, (Sunday 1-4 if it rains)
- 5/15/10 Saturday 1-4PM, (Sunday 1-4 if it rains)
- 6/26/10 Saturday 2-5PM, (Sunday 2-5 if it rains) This is a Fun Day.
Parade starts at 1PM at Arlington Center for the Arts. Parade lasts for about 30 minutes and ends in the park. Need to finalize the route.
- 7/10/10 Saturday 10AM -1PM, (Sunday 10AM -1PM if it rains)
- 8/21/10 Saturday 10AM -1PM, (Sunday 10AM -1PM if it rains)
- 9/11/10 Saturday 1PM - 4PM, (Sunday 1PM – 4PM if it rains) This is a Fun Day.

Greg will follow up with Carol Johnson about her discussion with the contractor who installed the walkways which are degrading. We discussed the possibility of using metal edging to mitigate the problem of grass creeping onto the walkways. Greg and Doris will follow up.

Lori Cerudda may have up to 10 volunteers for the 4/10/10 work day from People Making a Difference

We discussed conducting soil tests which costs about \$10 per test. A motion was made and carried to spend up to \$100 for soil testing.

We should rake the pine bark mulch back into the playground during each work day.

Miscellaneous:

FSPP currently has a display at the Arlington Public Library. Eric will replenish the handouts two times per week.

Margaret Moore is the crew coach for the Belmont High School Crew Club. She came to the meeting because she read that there was a motion to ban gas motors. The Club currently owns two motor boats with gas motors and are considering buying a third launch that is electric, and this appears to be a expensive option. FSPP thought that the town limited outboard motors to 5HP, but we were not able to confirm if this was true or who made the rule.

The Appalachian Mountain Club is sponsoring a trail maintenance day on the Route 2 side of the Pond on 5/8/10 from 9AM to 1PM.

Advertising:

Lally will advertise the work days, festival days, and other FSPP events via Community Access Cable TV, posters in the park and on Mass. Ave.

FSPP can offer community service hours to high school students, and Margaret will see if the Belmont and Arlington crew teams will volunteer and get community service hours.

Activities in the Park with the Arlington Arts Council grant:

- 6/26/10 Saturday 2-5PM, (Sunday 2-5 if it rains) This is a Fun Day
Parade starts at 1PM at Arlington Center for the Arts and ends at Spy Pond.
- 9/11/10 Saturday 1PM - 4PM, (Sunday 1PM – 4PM if it rains) This is a Fun Day

Betsy has some prizes left, and Karen will put a note in the newsletters for donations of toys for prizes.

Next Meeting:

May 9th 7PM – Mothers Day 32 Hamilton Road #402

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Watt