

**APRIL 3, 2011**

**FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING MINUTES**

**In attendance:** Karen Grossman, Doris Birmingham, Elizabeth Karpati, Beverly Williams. Karen asked each of us to mention what we have enjoyed about the Park lately. The snow has gone!

**Minutes** of the February 6, 2011 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** was submitted by Jane Whitmore

- Projected Budget: \$3450 for Income and \$7550 for Expenses. Karen noted we do not need the entire \$1500 projected for t-shirt purchases.
- New members year to date: 6 with total of \$165; donations: 4 with total of \$435
- CD balance - \$3,004.93
- Checking account balance - \$9,992.54
- MA state sales tax exemption is now **official**. We can download Form ST-5 to give to vendors. Karen will ask Jane to provide the tax-exempt number.
- Dues solicitation will be done in May by e-mail or postal mail for those members for whom we do not have an e-mail address.

**T-shirts:** Karen is investigating the possibility of having more youth extra-small and adult medium shirts printed. She will contact, among other companies, Aero Sports in Brookline for the best quality and price.

**Beautification Committee:**

- **Bulletin board** – Lally posted need for carpenter on local volunteer network; no response as yet. Doris moved and Elizabeth seconded: Continue to post the job. If no volunteer responds by June 1<sup>st</sup>, put the repair out for bid, reminding the bidder that we are nonprofit. **PASSED**. We agreed to mention in the newsletter the name of anyone helping with the repair.
- **Poison ivy treatment** – Joe Connelly is still interested in having Teresa Lengyel write a Notice of Intent for eradicating poison ivy in the Park and on the embankment near the parking lot.
- **Trees** for the playground. Sally Naish is in charge of purchasing trees for the town. She recommended black tupelo, rather than red maples. Negotiations continue.
- **Path erosion:** Questions re: Stalok® installation include: Is the surface moving? Has some of the material gone into the Pond? Is there exposed cement that was not present before the installation? Is the rainwater running straight into the pond from the installation rather than onto the grass?
- **Cost to re-grade?** Cost will determine whether we will need to do fundraising.
- **Rain garden** – Sustainable Arlington has a small grant for a rain garden. Elizabeth, Gail, and Karen walked through the Park to determine if there is a suitable place; possibility still under consideration.
- **Work Days** - Doris and her calling group will make reminder calls the week before each Work Day. Religious groups have the dates for their bulletins, and they will be posted on the Arlington High School online bulletin board. Massive cleanup needed for first Work Day on April 16<sup>th</sup>, with the 17<sup>th</sup> as rain date. Other dates: May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>, July 16<sup>th</sup>, August 20<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Website:** Marshall McCloskey will generate the mass e-mails, including one to announce the April 16<sup>th</sup> Work Day.

## **Outreach:**

- Jacki sent **announcements** about the Work Days to congregations and the media. She also attended a conference on social networking. Linda Shoemaker created a Facebook page for the FSPP and gave Karen and Jacki a tutorial on how to use it to our advantage.
- For **park activities**, Betsy sent the following report: “ At the 9/10 mini-festival, there will be no crafts like last year’s giraffes where all materials come in from outside and there is no connection with the Spy Pond ecosystem. Everything will be low-tech and biodegradable, and will at least partially use materials found in the park. Besides FSPP’s usual puzzles and scavenger hunts, we will have 3 or 4 nature activities. Our ideas so far are the bark boats, catching insects with nets and somehow looking at them (like in a terrarium) before releasing them, and making solar leaf prints. I spoke to the Art Beat owner and she is willing to help us get a bulk discount on that special solar paper. The two of us (Betsy and Kathy Modigliani) will continue to brainstorm, and we welcome others’ ideas.”
- **Warrant article** Members are working on a no-wake 50 feet from the shore warrant article.
- **EcoFest** was held at Town Hall on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and FSPP had a table right by the door, staffed by Sally Hempstead, Elizabeth Karpati, Lally Stowell, Bev Williams, Wally Williams. Karen will ask Sally to coordinate the 2012 EcoFest table.
- **Brochure update** – Betsy will write the proposed update. Karen will circulate the draft before it is printed.

**Summer Newsletter** - the Deadline will be June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Doris will write an article on false indigo; Elizabeth will explain a rain garden. Article on the rowing team? Betsy will give update on warrant article.

**Banner on Boys and Girls Club** – Doris will be one of the judges, since the banner/mural will face Spy Pond.

**Next Meeting:** June 5, 2011, 7pm, 32 Hamilton Road #402, Arlington MA 02474

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly E. Williams, Secretary