

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK
Minutes June 5, 2016

PRESENT: Karen Grossman, President, Marshall McCloskey, Lally Stowell, Sally Hempstead, and Bev Williams. The meeting was held at 7 pm at Karen's home. Each of us has enjoyed walking in the park.

MINUTES of April 3, 2016: were corrected as follows: The mailing permit was \$215, not \$75. Letters can be mailed for 13.1 cents, not 9 cents. The minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Marshall reported a checking account balance of \$18,828.72 people have responded to the fund appeal letter, with dues received of \$1265 and donations of \$1012. Total received since January of 2016: \$2,277.

May solicitation letter went to 774 households in the 021,022, and 024 zip codes, and to 74 households in other zip codes. Cost of postage was a total of \$115.60, while a regular mailing, without the non-profit stamp, would have been \$398.56, or a savings of \$282.96. We can send two more mailings on this year's permit and we have enough envelopes. We THANKED Marshall for all his labor!

WEBSITE: Marshall has brought the database up to date. Thanks to Fred Moses who has made it easier to elicit current email lists for each email message we want to send to those in our database. Deepak Bidwai has posted the Spring Newsletter and current documents.

BEAUTIFICATION: The April Work Day was postponed until Sunday, resulting in fewer Boston University alumni who came. Leaf debris at Linwood Beach took two rounds of volunteers to complete the huge task of raking and taking the leaves to the woods by the shed. In May the Community Health Services (998 Mass. Ave.) participated. No group is scheduled for June, but we hope we'll still get enough help; Charles DeVirgilio and his Zhen Ren Chuan Martial Arts students will help in July. The A/B Crew team will come for the August Work Day, and People Making a Difference® will help in October. No group has volunteered for September.

The Community Preservation proposal for the Spy Pond Edge Protection and Erosion Control Project was approved by Town Meeting, and the contractor will begin a study of erosion around the pond and propose solutions. By the fall of 2016 the Town will receive a report on findings and possible solutions.

The Swan Sculpture was approved by Arlington Public Art, the Cultural Council, the Art Commission, the Town Manager, and the Park and Recreation Commissioners as a permanent piece of art in the park and will be formally dedicated on Fun Day in September. FSPP has made a \$500 contribution to Kevin Duffy, the sculptor. We APPROVED \$50 toward a permanent plaque for the sculpture to be designed by Kevin and arranged with the Park Commissioners.

The serviceberry bush has not yet been replaced. Perhaps in the fall the DPW will install it.

The portable restroom on Pond Lane was overturned, and Karen reported this to the Parks Department. It was righted shortly thereafter. Since it was installed later than promised, Karen told Joe Connelly we will pro-rate our share of the payment for it.

OUTREACH: Sally will coordinate our booth at Feast of the East, June 18th from 1 to 4 pm.

Betsy has asked for assistance on FUN DAY, September 10, (No boats this year!) and Karen encourage all present to sign up with her. We DECIDED to put up the tent and do park outreach on that day. Town Day will be on September 17, and our Work Day will be held on September 24th. Marshall will teach new volunteers how to erect the tent since he and Sally will be away on the July Work Day.

NEWSLETTER: Summer Newsletter submission deadline is June 18th.

NEXT MEETING: at Karen's home-32 Hamilton Road #402, on August 7 at 7pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9 pm. Respectfully submitted, Beverly E. Williams, Secretary