

**FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019**

**INTRODUCTIONS:** The meeting was convened at 7:06 pm. Those present are encouraged to state their name, where they live (if anyone is new) and what they've enjoyed at the park lately.

- Karen Grossman, President, enjoyed seeing someone on the pond skating and pulling a sled behind them, as well as seeing other skaters on the pond.
- Lally Stowell, Coordinator of the Beautification Committee, has not been at the park lately, but loves it just the same.
- Joanie Walls, Treasurer, likewise.
- Ann Randolph, new attendee, has been a fan of the park for a while, and has decided to get more involved. She lives in a Hamilton Road Condominium on the Pond.
- Mithilesh Sharma, was actively involved with the Friends of Spy Pond Park in the past, has been in New Jersey for work for about a year, and is now back in Arlington. She is an accomplished photographer, thinks the park is beautiful, and has many photos of the park at sunset.
- Sally Hempstead, Outreach and Communications Co-Chair, loves the park since she discovered it while living just up the street from it, thinks it is a beautiful thing to have hidden in the midst of the Town.
- Marshall McCloskey, Recording Secretary and Beautification Committee, enjoys doing the general maintenance and repairs sometimes required of Friends of Spy Pond Park facilities, e.g. the shed, bulletin boards, etc. Met the latter individual through his involvement with the Friends of Spy Pond Park, and married her.

**DECEMBER 2, 2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted. Karen mentioned that Emily Sullivan will expand on the description of her talk in the December minutes in an article for the newsletter.

**OUTREACH:**

Elaine Crowder just recently provided photos of the last Fun Day to Karen for inclusion in the library display, newsletter and/or website gallery. The library display will be done in August of this year. Mithilesh will send Karen some of her photos of sunsets over Spy Pond. Karen and Sally will meet and decide what photos to post in the 2018 website gallery.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Joanie Walls reported some highlights of interest now that results are completely in for the previous year.

- We have had 133 contributors, compared to 121 last year.
- We had donations from Network for Good of approximately \$800.
- Our assets decreased by on \$2,188 in spite of our donation of \$5,000 toward the pervious path.

The FSPP CD is with Morgan Stanley Bank at an interest rate of 2.55%. 1 year maturity date is 10/18/19

Notes: All schedules below were prepared on a cash basis.

- 1) Not included below are the 2018 web fees as amount is unknown at this time.
- 2) P.O. Box last collected on 12/31/18 is included below.
- 3) Network for Good donations of \$575 less \$12.50 in fees not deposited into account as of this report.
- 4) Unused balance in Post Office balance is \$265 which goes against future mailings/permits.
- 5) \$225 from December solicitation not deposited in checking account as of this report.
- 6) 133 total households in FSPP database contributed \$5,888 vs. 121 total last year.

## Friends of Spy Pond Park - 2018 Financial Report as of December 31, 2018

2018 INCOME		Totals
Dues & Donations - Nov 2017 solicitation received in 2018		\$1,217.00
Dues & Donations – May 2018 solicitation		2,450.00
Dues & Donations – Nov 2018 solicitation		2,528.00
Other 2018 Donations	\$175.00	
Fun Day	143.00	
Feast of the East	12.00	
Town Day	30.25	
Work Days	29.00	
Total Other Donations		389.25
T Shirt & Sticker Sales		72.00
Donated Booklet Sales		98.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$6,754.25</b>

2018 Expenses	Amount
Donation to Pervious Path Construction	\$5,000.00
Winter Newsletter & Brochures	318.00
Database Admin	74.00
Web Hosting (2016 lost check was reissued)	792.17
Portable Toilet - 2017 & 2018	974.96
Spring Newsletters	462.17
Spring Solicitation Letters	112.41
Prepaid Postage/Mailing Permit Fee & Postage	259.64
Town Day Booth	72.06
Feast of East	70.00
P.O. Box Renewal	88.00
T-Shirts Purchased to sell	238.10
MA Filing & Annual Report Fees	103.50
Food Link – 7 Work Days	70.00
Beautification tools/supplies	141.38
Summer Newsletter	510.33
Fun Day Generator Rental	46.73
Fun Day Supplies	148.73
Fall Solicitation Letters	169.98
NCOA address processing	40.00
Bank Fees/Network for Good Fees	37.50
total newsletters	\$1,290.50
total solicitations	\$542.03
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>9,729.66</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,754.25</b>
<b>Difference (Income - Expenses)</b>	<b>(2,975.41)</b>
<b>Assets</b>	<b>End 2017      End 2018</b>
<b>Cash Box</b>	<b>\$50.00      \$50.00</b>
<b>Checking</b>	<b>\$21,460.06      \$8,434.65</b>
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	<b>\$0.00      \$10,000.00</b>
<b>Net Increase in Assets</b>	<b>(2,187.91)</b>
<b>Difference (see notes 3 &amp; 5 above this report)</b>	<b>(787.50)</b>

Friends of Spy Pond Park 2019 Budget	
<b>Projected Income</b>	
Membership Dues	\$3,200.00
Donations	1,800.00
Merchandise Sales	100.00
Miscellaneous	100.00
<b>Total Projected Income</b>	<b>\$5,200.00</b>
<b>Projected Expenses</b>	
Portable Toilet	\$500.00
Beautification Committee	250.00
Fun Day Expenses	200.00
Outreach Booths (Town Day & Feast of East)	150.00
Solicitations	600.00
Newsletters	1,300.00
Website	3,000.00
Misc (Web, fees, supplies)	500.00
<b>Total Projected Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>

## **BEAUTIFICATION:**

Emily Sullivan provided an interim update on the Spy Pond Park Shoreline and Path Construction Project noting that there is not a final timeline and schedule as yet. It was expected that there would be one by mid-February. She expects the path work to begin first, starting in March, since funding for it goes only through 6/30/19. Work in the planting beds may start then also, depending on contractor employee availability, otherwise sometime between May-July.

Notwithstanding uncertainties re: the park being accessible per the impending construction, Lally proposed a comprehensive schedule for the Work Days for next year, noting the dates chosen last year, pointing out the dates of events we normally engage in, and possible conflicts with holidays or other events. After some discussion, Work Day and Fun Day dates were agreed upon as follows:

- **April 27**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date April 28 1-4 p.m.)
- **May 25**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date May 26 1-4 p.m.)
- **June 22**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date June 23 1-4 p.m.)
- **July 27**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date July 28 1-4 p.m.)
- **Aug. 24**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date Aug. 25 1-4 p.m.)
- **Sept. 21**, Fun Day 10 -1 p.m. (not considered a Work Day - rain date Sept. 22 1-4 p.m.)
- **Sept. 28**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date Sept. 29 1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 19**, 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (rain date Oct. 20 1-4 p.m.)

Other dates of note are Earth Day, April 22, Feast of the East, June 15, and **Town Day, September 14**. Marshall and Sally will be away on June 15, and not available for manning the Feast of the East table.

Lally is having a hip replacement at the end of June and may not be available during July and August.

Lally mentioned that Betty Athanasoulas will be providing BU Global Day of Service volunteers, as usual, for the first Work Day on April 27. She has no firm volunteer commitments as yet for the other Work Days, but expects that we will manage to round up the usual number of people.

It was noted that Lally did a fantastic job of removing mildew from the shed front and side, and that the last work group did a beautiful job of putting the interior of the shed in order without her assistance.

## **WEBSITE:**

The question of on-going support for the database and webpage has not been resolved. Fred Moses, who created and continues to provide support for both up to the present time, wishes to retire from that position. The fact that the original provider of the interface to the database, a company called Ironspeed, is now defunct, complicates the issue. Fred had to develop an additional app to access the database after their software failed in this respect. Fred has indicated that his investigations into resolving these problems revealed that we might incur likely expenses of \$200 to \$300/month, a cost that the board regards as prohibitive, re: previous discussions.

It was pointed out that support of the database would be a *separate* additional cost from support of the FSPP website.

Marshall McCloskey has suggested that perhaps the information in the database can be imported to another platform, such as Microsoft SQL, or other. He has yet to determine how this might be accomplished. He will contact Brian Rehrig of the Arlington Land Trust, and perhaps others, re: how they support their database and report his findings at the next meeting. He will also inquire about how they support their websites.

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

It was agreed the newsletters will be called Winter/Spring, Summer, and Fall/Winter. The deadline for the upcoming Winter/Spring newsletter was set as March 15.

**NEW BUSINESS AND NEXT MEETING: April 7, 2019, 7 pm** at Karen Grossman's, 32 Hamilton Road #402