

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING

December 2, 2007

In attendance: Frances Cameron, Bill Eykamp, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, Fred Moses.

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

Treasurer's Report:

- CD \$1937.12, checking account \$8579.50. No new members since October.
- Karen noted that the report should include the current membership total each time, and that for the dues mailing in April the mailing list needs to be divided into paid members and others.
- The payment dispute about the T-shirts is finally settled in our favor, since the company did not rebut Karen's claim about the misprinted or mis-sized shirts.

Karen reported on her **correspondence with Joe Connelly:**

- Will DPW plant sedges at Linwood Beach? Joe will look into it.
- Latch on playground gate is at eye level for little kids who could run into it. Latch has been moved lower, but would be at eye level for at least some kids at almost any height, so the gate should always be kept closed for safety.
- How can FSPP support DPW to get adequate funds for pay for grass maintenance?
- How to keep the granite posts from getting knocked over? Joe will look into it.
- When were the filters in the park drainage system last flushed? This is a question for DPW; Elizabeth to check into it.

Miscellany:

- Wooden **bulletin board** needs some repairs – Bill says Andrew Fischer will do eventually.
- **Coyote:** nobody at the meeting had any information on it.
- **Weeding** is over for the year. Bill will do some more **pruning** – winter is a good time for it. Kate Thompson recommended pruning too-high shrubs at Linwood. Scouts could be asked for some more pruning help in the spring.
- **Outreach:** Ellen is willing to make calls with reminders about meetings, but wants someone else to do the calls about updating database information.
- **Newsletter:** John Gearin is willing to continue to do it for now. The goal is to put the newsletter on-line to save postage and paper, so an editor with on-line skills is needed.
- **Annual meeting:** Sunday, January 6, 2008: potluck 6 pm, meeting 7 pm. Speaker: John Bean. Election of officers – need new president and newsletter editor! Meeting will be announced with postcards (mailing next week) and in the *Arlington Advocate* January. 3.
- **“Green Dog”** proposal for off-leash hours: the meeting for the area including Spy Pond Park will be held Thursday, January 3, 2008, 7:30 -9 pm, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, second floor.
- **Library exhibit:** possibly in March if we have the table reserved; Karen to check.
- **Membership recruitment:** membership brochures should be put in a pocket on the bulletin boards in the park.
- The **website** has been improved. It can provide addresses to send 200 e-mails in a batch, also mailing labels, and member lists by interest. Karen can make updates and Eric can add newly paid-up members.
- Future ideas for website improvements: (1) E-mail addresses by member interest. (2) Dues payments on-line. → Ask at annual meeting how many would pay on-line to see if this feature is worth it (would cost 2 or 3 % of dues) ←
- Karen recommends that **committee chairs** should notify the president in advance if they cannot attend a meeting so that their committee report is not put on the agenda.