

In attendance: Eric Baatz, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, DP Powell.

The **minutes** of the February 3 meeting were approved with a correction: The bid for \$13,760 (not 13,000) received by Park & Recreation Department included mulch, weeding, pruning, and the path but not lawn maintenance.

Treasurer's Report: Checking = \$8,263.94, CD = \$1965.75.

- Three paid memberships including two new ones in 2008. Thank-you sent by e-mail to those with an e-mail address; those with a postal address only will get a letter.
- Last year's membership (dues-paying individuals or households) was 119.
- Public charities report and tax forms due to the state will be done soon.
- We do not yet have a bulk mailing permit. Some members have responded positively to Karen's e-mail question about their willingness to get the newsletter by e-mail only.

Park maintenance:

- Karen, Agnes O'Donnell, and Bill Eykamp met with John Bean and Jimmy Dodge of the DPW in the park on March 17 to discuss maintenance needs and priorities. DPW workers cleared trash washed up on Linwood beach, pruned back the overgrown plantings in the bed beyond the beach, and blew the leaves off the strip planted with bulbs along Pond Lane.
- FSPP will have a work day on April 5 for mulching and more pruning. DPW will supply mulch and we will spread it. Some Boy Scouts will help with the pruning. We will also have two cleanup days on April 26 and May 3.
- Kate Thompson of CRJA walked through the park with Karen and Bill on March 18 to discuss problems including the bare areas at Linwood beach and the beds next to it and the condition of the path.
- Joe Connelly has arranged with PTS to do lawn testing, fertilizing, and weed and grub control, but this may be for this year only.
- The Friends of Parks group has decided against mailing the fund solicitation brochure to all households because it would cost \$10,000. They will print 2000 copies to be put in public places. It could be publicized in the *Arlington Advocate* and the text e-mailed to members by groups like FSPP. They want to do this soon and suggested we delay our dues mailing to avoid two appeals coinciding, but we decided to keep our dues mailing in the spring.

Miscellany:

- Boat/canoe events are planned for five Sundays: May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, Sept.14. People wanting to rent a boat or canoe will have to sign up and pay in advance at Park & Rec. FSPP is to have activities in May and September, but just a presence (booth) on the other three dates.
- The Library display in March resulted in a few sign-ups for FSPP.
- The newsletter is planned to go out before the April 26 cleanup if possible.

Next meeting: Sunday, April 27, 7 p.m., 32 Hamilton Road, #402.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Karpati