

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING

FEBRUARY 1, 2009

In attendance: Eric Baatz, Eva Balazs, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati.

The **minutes** for January were approved with a few corrections under Accomplishments:

- Library display: Karen and Fred also worked on it.
- Outreach: E-mails sent to recruit e.g. weeders and people to work in the park.

Treasurer's report: Checking account stands at \$8876.88, CD at 2002.59.

T-shirt inventory (Hanes and Gildan):

- Adult: XL H 14, G 5; Large H 12, G 9; Medium G 18; Small G 29.
- Youth: XL G 10; Large G 20; Medium G 24; Small H 1, G 16; XS H 1, G 22.

Report from **Friends of Parks meeting** January 29:

- The Friends of Parks fund has \$2870 from the old parks beautification fund and contributions of \$725 for general purposes and \$4390 earmarked for re-doing the Spy Pond tennis courts, thanks to a big "marketing" campaign (no details reported) by Maryanna Foskett. Member groups should publicize the fund.
- The Recreation Department is considering porta-potties for parks and playing fields. Cost would be \$1000 for an 8-month season.
- Pathway maintenance: The "stabilized aggregate" erodes, and the manufacturer has not been responsive to requests for material for repairs, so replacing it with something like porous concrete (at least in the worst spots) may be desirable.
- Idea from FSPP: Try to get a grant for the replacement, and consider offering as matching funds the money saved by e-mailing the newsletter (printing & postage cost \$2400 in 2008).

Other:

- Beautification: Nothing being done now because of the weather. Doris Birmingham is working on a list of tools needed, will have estimates by March. Uta Low may not be able to participate actively but could make phone calls.
- Scheduling of workdays: Canoe rentals will be Friday evenings, so work days should be separate. Sunday afternoons were suggested, except for July and August, when Saturday mornings would be better because of the heat.
- An "EcoFest" is planned for March 28 (details below). FSPP should have a table.
- The mural project is on hold because Anne Ellinger couldn't raise the funds for it. Thus the \$500 that FSPP voted to contribute will not be spent this year.
- Website: Fred Moses is looking into enhanced database management software and finding a host that charges less. FSPP voted to reimburse Fred for the hosting fees he has paid out-of-pocket so far. Doris will enter information received from members into the database.
- Park activities: Anne Ellinger and Betsy Leondar-Wright are planning these. Kathy Modigliani is willing to do her birchbark boat project for kids again.
- Karen wants to recruit Boy and Girl Scouts and high-school students for pruning and try to get some help from the Garden Club as well.

Next meeting: 7 p.m. Sunday, March 1, 2009, 32 Hamilton Road. #402, Arlington, MA.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Karpati