

## May 7, 2006 Friends of Spy Pond Park meeting minutes

**Present:** Elizabeth Karpati, Sarah Conn, Eric Baatz, Ellen Robertson, Karen Grossman, Karen Martin, Betsy Leondar-Wright, Gail Leondar-Wright, Frances Cameron

April **minutes** approved      **Financial report:** \$8,012.94 in bank, plus CD \$1000+. Lots of revenue and expenses from festival are still to be recorded.

### **David Levy, Housing Corporation of Arlington guest speaker**

About Atwood House – now between Hodge & Noyes and Trinity Church on Mass Ave across from Wyman Terrace – he had idea to move the house to the empty lot on Pond Lane, either gravel lot on left or upper land on right. Not on front of their agenda now, but before figuring out if it is even feasible, talking with various people, Historical Society, Parks and Rec, Conservation Commission, two selectman. Underused lots now, create affordable housing. Maybe 3 or 4 condos. Barn in back? Current lot would expand parking lot; Hodge & Noyes would give house away. Get people to donate time, they could put money in, no budget yet. Development could be mix of federal, state, local and banks. Concerns about Motor-Mart and its noise and fumes and use of public lot. Gravel lot – we don't know how much it will be used now that park is renovated; it might be needed for boat trailers. Could be room for building and also some parking as the lot is big. Elks wanted the lot. Footpath down from bike path now, would be good to preserve access.

What questions should he ask? Better to preserve grass lot and use the parking lot, from an open-space point of view. We could make more people aware that it exists, have a potluck there.

Think about timeframe and let Hodge & Noyes know when you want to develop it. We could be involved; let us know when meetings happen and what is considered. They'll call an open meeting.

**Celebration:** Everything went gloriously, thanks to Anne Ellinger, and to all of us! Arlington Advocate article following up will appear this week we hope. David Dejardins from Globe was there. Melissa Beacham called Sarah and Ellen about graffiti      125 prizes given out for scavenger hunt; 30 bark boats launched.

**Graffiti** the night before: On Arlington list lots of discussion about dismay at graffiti on benches and tables. Diane Mahon put on the list that Sheriff's office met with town to target graffiti around town. She told them about this location. Will Sheriff's graffiti team go, and how promptly?      Look into Graffiti Off chemical. If you remove it, it discourages them. Get together with the kids and find out why they do it, and how to dissuade them, other teens who love the park talk with them. If there were another place for it. What's the punishment? Will Graffiti Off chemical work on stones and trex, or just on metal?

Thursday's Globe will have article by Melissa Beacham. Will it be the Sheriff's office, or us, or Town/DPW? All of us!      Ellen will call the Sheriff's office and let us know what they're going to do.

**[Misc.]** Sarah Conn needs information to fill out **grant report**. Woman with financial information hasn't gotten back to Karen. Betsy Curnan knows how the money was spent a couple of years ago.

**Spy Pond sign** on Linwood Circle looks great. Solid mahogany, with 32-carat lettering and special anchors. It should outlast us all.

John Jalbert had suggested again that we put money into having a **dog to chase geese**, which we think is ineffective, as the geese fly into the pond and come right back. The Cemetary has retired their coyote statues. Why? Maybe they are available second hand.

Will Public Works leave the **hoses** in the park behind? If so, maybe we can donate to buy container for them.

**Park** hasn't been signed off yet. Meeting around the Monday of the last week of May.

In response to Ellen's question about whether they have been oiling/**addling** geese eggs, Elizabeth said yes.

Fred has lots of **pictures** of the Park opening and will be moving them to the Web site in the near future.

Can we get membership application online on the Web site? Betsy is willing to open resulting letters with checks. Betsy and Karen will follow up on the **new members** from the Library and Celebration, but they need the filled out brochures to get the names into our membership list that Betsy maintains. Karen Martin is interested in helping Ellen phone.

**Correction** to newsletter: Elizabeth was given credit for a quote belonging to Stroker Rogovin. Ellen was given credit for a photograph by Sarah Conn.

Kathy Modigliani has us registered for **Town Day**. When is it? If the 2nd weekend then it is around Sept. 9.

Why send out brochures to members along with the **dues solicitation** information? Perhaps everything can fit onto one page with a tear-off bottom on which they can indicate their interests? Should include unstamped envelope for mailing the solicitations, May 18 at 1:00 PM is proposed at Karen's place.

June 4 at 7:00 PM is proposed for the **next meeting** at Karen Grossman's home, 32 Hamilton Road #402.

Edward Renshaw was very pleased at his good citizenship **award** handed out during the opening ceremonies. **Minutes** submitted by Betsy Leondar-Wright and Eric Baatz.