

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING

APRIL 27, 2008

In attendance: Eric Baatz, Eric Berger, Bill Eykamp, Nancy Grey, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, Uta Low, Tommi Ann Nolan.

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

Treasurer's report:

- Checking account \$8213.94, CD \$1969.46. Plus receipts of \$74 (T-shirts, dues) from 4/26 cleanup, minus some bills yet to be paid.
- Annual federal and state reporting forms have been submitted.
- Bulk mailing not yet applied for, may not be desirable if we want newsletters delivered promptly. We should check the experience of other groups that use bulk mailing. Advantage: bulk mailing doesn't have to be cancelled, wouldn't get mangled.
- We mail about 410 newsletters but only about a quarter of recipients pay dues.

Park maintenance:

- DPW will put sand outside playground; we have volunteers to spread it on May 3 to cover cement in playground.
- DPW plans to fix erosion in aggregate but timing is uncertain.
- Kate Thompson made recommendations for bushes to be planted in the bare areas. Joe Connelly will check with Park & Rec and DPW – if they don't have funds, FSPP could consider donating the bushes.
- Karen will ask Joe Connelly to get the path contractor to inspect the path to see if it is OK the way it is, with the pebbles that were on the top all gone.
- Friends of Parks printed only 2000 fundraising brochures because of cost. Karen e-mailed the text of the brochure to members. Contributions can be earmarked for Spy Pond Park; funds not earmarked will be allocated by Park & Rec.

Beautification:

- Karen asked in the newsletter for someone to serve as volunteer coordinator.
- Bill and Eric Berger spearheaded the pruning. About 15 people including some Boy Scouts helped on 4/5. About 80% of the needed work is done.
- Mulching was done on three days, on the planting beds and along Pond Lane.
- Cleanup took place on 4/26 with about 14 participants.
- Bill will get rid of grass growing between the cobblestones with Rodeo. Grass is also growing into the planting beds.
- Eric Berger will buy a couple of big leaf rakes for use in future cleanups.

Miscellaneous:

- FSPP will have a booth at the first and last of the canoe rental days only. *[P.S. The first one was cancelled – not enough sign-ups – not enough advance publicity? – also poor weather.]*
- A woman trying to establish a massage business offered some coupons as a reward for volunteers. Should we ask other businesses for coupons? How to allocate them – by lottery?
- Library display in March: Some new members, a lot of flyers were taken. The Library allows displays every other year only.
- Website: Fred made some improvements. Newsletter is posted on website.
- Dues mailing will be before postage goes up on May 11.
- Bill reported 3 swan nests, 1 duck nest, fewer goose eggs than before.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, **June 8** (*note change in date*), 7 p.m., 32 Hamilton Road #402.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Karpati