

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING

MAY 10, 2009

In attendance: Eric Berger, Doris Birmingham, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, Ilse Oliveira.

The **minutes** of April 12 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: See below. FSPP is not tax-exempt now because it hasn't applied, but is eligible to become tax-exempt, and Eric Baatz is applying.

Maintenance:

- Karen called DPW to get the drinking fountains checked because they don't seem to work – are they connected to the irrigation system?
- The first boat rental day is May 29 but there has been no publicity about it yet.
- Karen applied for grants from the Jenny Jones Fund and NEGEF for redirecting water flow from the paths with pavers to prevent erosion.

Beautification:

- The first cleanup went well, with about 11 participants and 15-20 bags collected – mostly weeds, not much trash.
- Mulching began on May 3. DPW dropped 3 piles of mulch on the grass beside the planting beds; only part of it could be spread, some areas need to be weeded first. We need to create a timeline for weeding and mulching. Mulch should be spread only on level areas, with a small earthen berm built up above the slope to the pond.
- Karen will ask DPW to clean up the water's edge at Linwood Beach as it did last year. The water side of the planting beds needs to be cleaned from a canoe or by wading.
- There is some poison ivy in bed #2. Using herbicide on it would need Con Com approval.
- Should we try to pay some people to weed again? Students? Scouts? Senior citizens? Unemployed? Would need information on what to weed vs. what to keep. Agnes, Ilse, Elizabeth to work on this and on a timeline.
- Tools: Ilse has spent \$163 and Eric about \$100. All tools owned by FSPP are so labeled. Most volunteers come without tools, so we voted to buy more tools if needed.
- Uta has resigned as beautification co-chair; Doris offered to replace her and resign as corresponding secretary (i.e. doing data entry). It was so voted, so we now need a new corresponding secretary.

Other:

- Karen suggested more outreach via articles and pictures in the *Arlington Advocate*.
- Dues solicitation letters went out in late April.
- Newsletter: Summer issue by June 20 (content due June 10), on-line with about 60 hard copies to have some available for handing out on work days. Fall issue by Town Day (9/26).

Next meeting: 7 p.m. Sunday, June 14, 2009, 32 Hamilton Road. #402, Arlington, MA.

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Karpati

P.S. **Treasurer's** information received by e-mail:

As of 5/10 we had \$8818.39 in the checking account and \$2011.19 in the CD.

Two recent memberships, one new with \$500 in donations "in memoriam."

For the year we have 17 named dues payers/donors, ten of which are new.

The dues total for the year is \$215 and the donations (from 8 donors) total \$545.