

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK MEETING

JULY 12, 2009

In attendance: Eric Baatz, Eric Berger, Karen Grossman, Elizabeth Karpati, Betsy Leondar-Wright, Ilse Oliveira.

Minutes of the June meeting were accepted with one correction: Cynthia is doing acknowledgement letters as well as data entry.

Treasurer's report: CD = \$2017.05; checking account as of June 30 = 10,354.22

(Amendment submitted after the meeting: 2009 Contribution list thus far extracted from FSPP database reveals a total of \$3,010: \$1,785 dues, \$860 donations & \$365 Eric William Kurtz memorial)

Park maintenance:

- Weed treatment was done June 30. Notification was done by flyers to condo residents and a letter to Karen; DPW now has our e-mail address for any future notifications.
- Joe Connelly reports that the playground sand will be replaced with bark mulch. The project went to bid July 1 and he hopes to get it done before the sand wasps nest again.
- Joe wants the bulletin board in the playground moved out because tacks may fall from it and endanger playing children. Betsy will look for a good spot for it (maybe just outside the playground gate?) and suggest it to Joe. The top of the board needs some more shingles (after the move).
- NEGEF rejected our application for help with the paths. It is more for supporting community-involvement projects. Some suggestions for such projects for which we could ask for help in the future: ** Materials for Betsy's activities for kids on park activity days. ** Signs to be put on Mass. Ave. at Linwood advertising these days. ** Cleanup, weeding, mulching days. ** A festival or an artist like Maya Apfelbaum for environmental education crafts. Additional suggestions are welcomed. The next application deadline is 9/15, so any money would be for activities next summer.

Beautification:

- Bill Eykamp pruned the willow shrubs in Bed #1 but they may need more pruning. Eric Baatz and Betsy will tackle the poison ivy in Bed #2.
- Grass growing into the path in some places should be removed (sprayed with "Rodeo") but grass in puddles before the steps leading to the water should be left for now.
- The next work day is July 18. Beds #7 and 8 need to be weeded, and poplars growing by the water should be cut because they block the view.
- Equipment: The canopy needs a new center pole and a new bag, costing about \$80. Karen has ordered them. We seem to have enough tools (clippers, etc.).
- The paid helpers have worked 15 hours each at \$12 for a total of \$360. We had authorized \$500; Eric Berger moved to authorize an additional \$250 if needed, and it was so voted. The helpers will be given FSPP T-shirts to wear while weeding.

Other:

- Eric Berger reported that there is no state law against gasoline motors on Great Ponds. He will check that the Town bylaw limits are 10 mph and 10 hp without restricting the type of motor. Betsy reported that an electric motor for the coaches' boat would be expensive and require a special order.
- The coach apparently carries a gasoline can in his boat, so he refills his motor while afloat! But gasoline is supposed to evaporate; oil is what leaves a slick.
- We may want to ask for a bylaw prohibiting gasoline motors on Spy Pond without special permission, but we should get the Con Com's opinion first.
- Annual reports to the state and federal governments were due May 15, so they need to be done soon.
- Event announcements on local cable TV require Power Point slides; Fred and Karen did two.
- Website: Fred moved it to a host which costs \$17 rather than \$30 per month.
- The fall newsletter should be ready for Town Day and the Sept. 12 activities day, so the deadline for articles is the end of August.

Next meeting: 7 p.m. Sunday, August 9, 2009, 32 Hamilton Road. #402, Arlington, MA

Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Karpati