

FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK
Minutes April 6, 2014 7pm

The meeting was held at the home of President, Karen Grossman, 32 Hamilton Road, #402.
Present: Karen Grossman, Sally Hempstead, Lally Stowell, Elizabeth Karpati, Marshall McCloskey, Treasurer; Bev Williams, and guest, Susan Stamps.

Minutes of February 9th FSPP board meeting were approved as circulated.

Treasurer's report: Marshall noted that there had not been much fiscal activity since the last meeting. Balance in checking: \$19,355.47. The Treasurer will look into the possibility of putting some of this money in a conservative fund. He will do the tax filing by April 15th. Database is up to date. Karen will write a dues solicitation letter in May and circulate the draft for our suggestions. She will have 1,000 brochures printed; we are almost out of them.

Beautification Committee: Kevin Duffy has moved the swan sculpture to his local studio. Installation possibly on our June Work Day?
Karen has walked through the park three times recently with Park Commission and landscape architect Carol Johnson. Jared Blake is working on a website to obtain volunteers for projects, including ours. A portable toilet has been installed on the opposite side of the gravel parking lot on Pond Lane. Gail will contact the Town, again, about dismantling the unusable water fountains. Lally reported that the Committee will walk through the park before the first Work Day, April 19. Since the invasive plants are not up yet, most of the work will be raking twigs and leaves, clearing the cobblestones, and picking up trash. She has other groups helping us each month, except for May and July. Marshall will supervise repair work on our shed, once again knocked off its foundation by snow piled against it by snowplows.

Website: Fred Moses has posted photographs and will post minutes and current newsletter.

Outreach: Sally thanked all the volunteers who helped with the Town EcoFest on March 29th. Erin and Jason Fliggburger are coordinating our September Fun Day using Betsy's notes as a guide.

Community Preservation Act (CPA): Susan Stamps is volunteering to help the community understand the value of applying for these state funds. Around Massachusetts, 151 cities and towns have adopted this act and are receiving financial help for conservation, outdoor recreation, historic preservation, and affordable housing. There would be a slight increase in property taxes; however, CPA money can also leverage other available grants. The Dallin Museum, the Arlington Land Trust, the Historical Society, and the Housing Corporation of Arlington support the CPA. Susan encouraged us as individuals to contact our selectmen and ask for their support. Town Meeting must vote to have the CPA appear on the Town ballot. FSPP did not take a stand on this political issue.

Arlington Parks Alliance: Sally and Bev attended a March 27 meeting of the group, which replaces "Friends of Parks". They are planning a "Night on the Beach" at the reservoir on Saturday, July 26th to raise funds for all the parks in town. Cost will be \$50 a person. Please contact Karen if you can obtain any auction items from local businesses. Lally agreed to assist with part of the planning.

Summer newsletter: deadline for copy will be June 13th. **Next meeting:** June 8th at the same location.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly E. Williams, Secretary