

**FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK
MINUTES OF MEETING
SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2019**

INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was convened at 7:10 pm. Those present were encouraged to state their name, where they live and what they've enjoyed at the park lately.

- Karen Grossman, President, thinks the park looks fabulous. The construction work is proceeding along nicely. The cobblestones look good.
- Lally Stowell, Coordinator of the Beautification Committee, was very pleased with the Work Day turnout (yesterday) We had 10 of our own members, as well as a number of people from Give Back Time and Volunteermatch.
- Sally Hempstead, Outreach and Communications Co-Chair, thought the canopy location on the other side of the boat ramp at yesterday's Work Day is actually better than where we had been placing it. She feels it is more visible to people coming from all directions. All agreed. We had to move it so as not to interfere with people who had rented the nearby table for a birthday party. It turns out our permit to put the canopy up for the Work Day and work in the park does not include automatic access to the table.
- Marshall McCloskey, Recording Secretary and Beautification Committee member noted how well the shed was organized after the Feast of the East (with no participation from him, as he and Sally were in Greece.)
- Mithilesh Sharma lives in Arlington again after being away for a year or so in New Jersey. She enjoys the sunsets in the park, and thinks the new pervious path is a beautiful addition to the park facilities.

JUNE 2 MEETING MINUTES ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS:

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved as presented. A thank you to Karen for her usual review, corrections and additions to the minutes prior to the current meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joanie Walls dropped off a paper copy earlier, and submitted an up-to-date Report online:

Friends of Spy Pond Park	
Treasurer's Report Sunday July 28, 2019	
CD with Accrued Interest - 7/26/19	\$ 10,178.85
Checking - Citizens 7/26/19	11,166.37
Total	\$ 21,345.22
2019 Donations/Dues (May Solicitation) -32	908.00
T-Shirt Sales - Feast of the East	36.00
Cash Donations - Feast of the East	33.00
Market Garden Booklet Sales - Feast of the East	12.00
Ice Business Booklet Sales - Feast of the East	29.00
Summer Newsletter Printing	(232.10)
Album Pro License for website	(129.00)
2018/2019 Domain	(200.00)
Bank Service Charges	(2.50)
Book Balance - 7/26/19	\$ 10,934.27
Bank Balance - 7/26/19	\$ 11,166.37
difference	\$ 232.10
<u>Outstanding Check</u>	
Summer Newsletter Printing	232.10

BEAUTIFICATION

Charles DiVirgilio's Martial Arts group came to the July Work Day yesterday. He brought 10 volunteers and ice cream to cap off the Work Day. They cleaned up the entire playground and the immediate area. Lally noted that one of the young boys working with them said "not finished" when asked if he now wanted to play... She has no group scheduled, at present, for the August Work Day, but is expecting the swim team to (probably) be back in September and People Making a Difference® (PMD) in October.

Karen related that Anne Ellinger noticed mold on the cork board in our enclosed bulletin board in the area to the right of the boat ramp, apparently due to moisture which manages to get inside. Marshall will investigate if the existing cork board can somehow be replaced. He thinks it might possibly be a difficult project, re: getting the present bulletin board apart. He has contacted the manufacturer of the bulletin board in the past, when we were having difficulty opening/closing it, which fortunately doesn't seem to be much of a problem now.

The new plantings as part of the soil erosion project are pretty much finished. The contractor has an obligation to keep plants alive for a year. The contractor will also be planting grass seed everywhere needed, esp. where trucks might have damaged an area. The main purpose of the coconut rolls near the shore is to hold the plants so they take root and don't wash away. Lally and Karen will be meeting with Emily Sullivan. Lally hopes to take a video with audio to aid with identifying where plants are, their names and how to care for them over time. Lally has also talked with Mike ???.

The Arlington Conservation Commission may be involved with an educational program about the park. Dealing with invasive plants continues to be a problem. There has been a town-wide training session and may be another available in this regard. There is also a question about shared responsibility with the Town of Arlington and FSPP re: invasive growth. There is a firm that might be hired, Parttere, which gets rid of them, e.g. Japanese knotweed. The upper beds have not been cleared of invasive growth, as yet.

Heather, who represents the contractor, Haven, noticed little dents in the new pervious path while inspecting the work, and wonders if they might be detrimental over time. The handicapped overlook will be done in August. There's a plan to put up some fencing to keep people out of the planting beds. We need to find out what's going on with the Linwood Beach long term signage.

Spy Pond Edge Protection and Erosion Control Project Update 7/24/19

Emily Sullivan, Environmental Planner & Conservation Agent, Town of Arlington
esullivan@town.arlington.ma.us (781) 316-3012

- part of the porous pavement path was installed. the remainder of the path (the park entrance area) will be installed sometime in August, when the contractor can schedule the subcontractor, which is from out-of-state. The entrance of the park will be closed from approximately 14 days in August to complete the work safely.
- the plantings along SPP have been completed, though plantings still need to be installed in front of the parking lot area.
- the core fascines along SPP (which are what is being installed to stabilize the banks) have been installed, though one final stretch needs to be installed in front of the parking lot area.
- the overlook will be installed in August, once the project architect reviews the contractor's submittals.
- the contractor will begin prepping the Boys and Girls Club site to install the coir fascine this week.
- all project work (SPP, Boys and Girls Club, Scannell Field) will be substantially completed by 9/30/2019. With the exception of some plantings that need to be planted in October and early November, the work will be complete by the end of September. By 9/30/2019, the outlet structure of the pond will be placed back to its original water level. The pond will rise naturally to its normal water level through rainfall.

Lally will schedule a meeting and a park walk-through with Emily Sullivan, and possibly Cathy Garnett and Karen, mentioned above, to discuss a number of these issues.

Karen received an email from a woman who uses an electric scooter who praised the smoothness of travelling on the new smooth path. We need to find out about additional vacuuming for the path. There is a contractor hired by the Town who will vacuum all the paths in Town requiring it twice a year, at the same time. We will inquire about how much it would cost for him to do just our path, if necessary, due to frequent heavy rainstorms that carry street debris on the path. She noted that the storm drains at Linwood St and Pond Lane were (deliberately) blocked during the ongoing construction to prevent them from carrying construction debris into the pond or clogging the drains. This, unfortunately, caused a veritable river to flow into the pond from Massachusetts Avenue during some heavy rainstorms. She noticed that the bench in the playground is peeling, and should probably be refinished. She will get an estimate from the artist.

WEBSITE

Julie McBride has been posting the newsletters, minutes and whatever is needed on our website. She has purchased the program for posting the photo gallery. Fred Moses will remedy a problem with the gallery and implement database queries for interests and involvements in the near future. Karen will review the current photos on the website at the end of the year, and make room to post Mithilesh's photos of sunsets, as necessary.

OUTREACH

Jenny Babon now has access to our Facebook page, and has been posting on Facebook and Twitter. Karen is hoping to enlist someone to take pictures of the Work Days for the Facebook page, as well as on Instagram and Twitter. Mithilesh volunteered to take pictures on Fun Day, however we still need to enlist someone to walk with her and others to get photo permissions. Sally and Lally have contacted Betsy Leondar-Wright re: plans for the upcoming Fun Day on September 21.

FUN DAY 2019 Report by Betsy Leondar Wright Saturday September 21 10-1, rain date Sunday 1-4

Yes, confirmed for 2019

Role confirmed

Face painting - Lisa Reynolds

Toddler table - Jill McArthur, jillmcarthur28@gmail.com

Prizes - Dick Norcross - rich28ruth@aol.com

Leaf prints - Lally and Sally

Boat rides to island tours – Arlington Land Trust volunteers Ann Royer and Peter Belknap
pcbelknap52@gmail.com

Pinal Maniar will do the poster, may be available for bark boats

Liz Blumenthal will get photo permissions

Assuming the usual suspects - Karen at dual MyRWA/FSPP info tables, Marshall set-up and FSPP Info. table, myself on puzzle / scavenger hunt table

Yes, but role not specified yet

Julie Galloway - crafts table, the Toddler table, or the Puzzle and scavenger hunt table - let her know what's needed - jagalloway674@gmail.com

Judy Lu - Email: judyvybichlu@gmail.com

Cecily Miller

cecily.apa@gmail.com - don't use her former email address

Music

- Lokensgard Blechbaser Ensemble Brass Band - go first at 10ish
- Charles DeVirgilio will bring students to do martial arts demonstration
- Joe Burns and Mark Sandman will bring equipment and line up musicians – wade_in@verizon.net, will rent generator, need us to provide 2 canopies)

Invited, no answer yet

Tinkergarten, Megan Recupero megan_leopold@hotmail.com (Lauren's not there anymore) & use online form

Sam W. (Scooter) and Sarah Wilkinson

Sara Feit- sara@puddlestompers.com - Dirt box for preschoolers - asked for 2019
Manager of Operations
PUDDLESTOMPERS Nature Exploration
(617) 527-2000
www.puddlestompers.com

- Bug-catching – Mass Audubon Habitat of Belmont volunteers – **Roger Wrubel** <rwrubel@massaudubon.org>

Lally distributing flyers - ~~will she need a helper because of surgery?~~ No, she can do it

Ram Subramanian photographer

Elaine publicity and photography

Laura Homer photography 617-953-0743 laurahomer56@gmail.com, send request

David Ardito: ydpaa@yahoo.com - asked about HS face painters

Past multi-purpose volunteers asked:

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- Judy Berman
- Bill Eykamp
- Colin Blair
- Tashi Pique <tspique@gmail.com>

Volunteers who signed up online:

Benjamin Loosian, bloosian2020@spyponders.com, (339) 368-4369
Alan Xie, axie2021@spyponders.com, (857) 334-6518
Prajish Simkhada, psimkhada2021@spyponders.com, (857) 284-3703
Sofia Beals, sbeals2022@spyponders.com, (781) 924-9057
Valerie Ho, vho2022@spyponders.com, (617) 230-6346

NO can't do it

- Shayna Loeffler shayna.loeffler@verizon.net, 781-643-1649 - face paint? No, can't make date
- Karen Wagner <krwagner11@gmail.com> - away that weekend
- Hui Ren hr0connie@gmail.com

Roles unfilled

Face-painting #2 _____

Bark boats #2 _____ and maybe #1 if Pinal isn't available _____

Photographer _____

Photo permissions volunteers (2 or 3) _____

Puzzle booth #2 _____

Toddler booth #2 _____

Other nature activities, esp. if no Habitat or Tinkergarten or Puddlestompers _____

Lots of set-up and clean-up helpers would be welcome

FSPP Fun Day posters

Kickstand Cafe (bulletin board inside restroom area)

Maxima

Art Beat

Paint Your Own Pottery

Fox Library

Robbins Library

Book Rack (back to back)

Arlington Center for the Arts

Hardy School

Thompson School (they posted multiple copies on their doors); 187 Everett St.

the new Gibbs School (Karen)

Starbucks

Henry Bear's Park

Magic Bites across from Stop and Shop

Menotomy Rocks Park kiosk at entrance off Jason Street

Robbins Farm Park (at the kiosk across the street at the school)

bigger flyer at bike path and Lake St. put on the metal real estate stands in the
shed close to the date

Symes Mini Mart

Arlington Pizza (1 block past Mill St.)

Domino's Pizza (will ask Dominos headquarters for permission)

The Artful Heart (across from Book Rack) - took one; will post closer to the event

Arlington Centered Gift Shop (next to Punjab)

Muse's Window (opposite Capital Theater)

Capital Theater

COMMUNICATIONS

The last 4-page newsletter was adjudged to be excellent. The next one is expected to be longer with Fun Day, Town Day, etc... Sally set October 15th as the deadline for the Fall/Winter 2019 Newsletter. The Library display is all set for Sally to put up on Thursday, August 1st. Sally will keep Karen posted re: the need for additional newsletters and literature as required.

NEW BUSINESS AND NEXT MEETING:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm. The next meeting will be:

October 6, 2019, 7 pm at Karen Grossman's condo, 32 Hamilton Road #402, Arlington, MA

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall McCloskey

Recording Secretary