

**FRIENDS OF SPY POND PARK  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 2, 2025**

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Karen Grossman, Adrienne Landry, Lally Stowell, Megan Chrisman

**JANUARY 12 MEETING MINUTES ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS:**

The meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Karen for Susan Saw

Bank Account Balance as of 12/31/2024: \$22,946.96 Bank Account Balance as of 02/28/2025: \$24,165.17			
Income		Expenses	
Contributions via NFG <sup>1</sup> (Network For Good)	\$1,075.00	Portable toilet rental fee <sup>3</sup>	\$(416.50)
Dues & Donations (Checks) <sup>2</sup>	\$965.00	Website domain renewal & security fees	\$(405.29)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,040.00</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$(821.79)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Contributions via NFG of \$978.75 was reported in the 2024-year financial report.

<sup>2</sup> The dues and donations of \$940 was reported in the 2024-year financial report.

<sup>3</sup> The portable toilet rental fee expense of \$416.50 was reported in the 2024-year financial report.

<sup>4</sup> Payment of \$446.28 for FSPP Winter Spring 2025 Newsletter printing was deducted from our account on 2/28/25.

We continue to advertise for a new Treasurer.

**STEWARDSHIP TEAM:**

Karen reported on Anne Ellinger's behalf that she posted the Winter/Spring 2025 newsletter on the Linwood bulletin board, and she will do the same on the other two boards when the weather improves.

On the topic of Parterre's involvement in further work in the lower planting beds, Karen has emailed David Morgan twice to ask for an agreement for Parterre to work in the park this year with no response. Adrienne will try to get him on the phone as well and will coordinate with Karen.

New items for the Stewardship Team include:

- **Planting up to 15 - 20 new native plants this year**
- **Contacting the Volunteer Coordinator at the High School to get a watering rotation going.**
- **Consider moving meetings to Monday or any other night but Sunday.**
- **Offering citations or other acknowledgement for folks who volunteer for 4+ Work Days.**

To recruit watering volunteers, Jenny could write something about this along with the Work Days and submit it on the website and through the guidance department.

For the citations, Karen suggested designing something that could be like an acknowledgement, like a county fair ribbon or an FSPP pin. Jenny could provide a master list of people who have volunteered for the year with checks beside each person's name who registers (including Fun Day). Karen asked Lally how many people go for 4 or more Work Days; Lally thinks not many.

We will try meeting a different night going forward, after the one in May that has been advertised in the newsletter being distributed at the library (perhaps Monday evening).

Adrienne noted that Linwood Beach has about 2 feet of drenched leaves that have been pushed up by the ice. 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Brackett School coming in April could help with removing them.

Adrienne confirmed with Karen that purchasing plants are covered for park maintenance (this is the extra \$1500 left over for contractor from last year's budget) outside of this year's contract in the treasurer's report).

Karen will email Natasha Waden to ask if Friends of Parks will be meeting this year. She will also ask if we can use one of the DPW's shearers to shear off the bushes at the end of Linwood around the arc over to the beach, as well as trim the forsythias in the circle off Pond Lane near the gravel parking lot (off Linwood on the way to the bike path). The FSPP sign at Linwood Circle is now visible because the rose bush obstructing it was cut down; we don't know by whom, but it's nice to have the sign visible again. Karen will also ask about the wet leaves at Linwood Beach. Adrienne will communicate with Karen about another follow-up.

Work Day Schedule from Lally:

**Work Days for 2025**

**April 26, 9-11 am for Ecofest**

**May 17, 9-11 am (rain date May 18, 1-3 pm)**

**June 21, 9-11 am (rain date June 22, 1-3 pm)**

**July 19, 8-10 am (rain date July 20, 1-3 pm)**

**Aug. 16, 8-10 am (rain date Aug. 17, 1-3 pm)**

**Sept. 27, 9-11 am (rain date Sept. 28, 1-3 pm)**

**Oct. 18, 9-11 am (rain date Oct. 19, 1-3 pm)**

Jenny will advertise the May-October Work Days but was not planning to advertise the first Work Day, as volunteers will come from EcoFest. Adrienne suggested using the phone to contact volunteers such as Bill Stalcup. We decided to advertise and have a cutoff of five people.

**WEBSITE:**

Daniel Jalkut has done a great job keeping the database up to date so our notices will reach all who have expressed an interest. Julie is doing a great job with postings on the website.

**OUTREACH:**

Georgia has resigned and David Nejezchleba has done postings on Instagram when appropriate.

Karen asked if we should advertise Work Days on Instagram. Adrienne and Lally agreed that we should.

Karen reported on behalf of Betsy Leondar-Wright that Sept. 13 10 am-1pm will be the 2025 Fun Day date (rain date is Sept. 14, 1-4pm).

Jenny arranged for us to have use of the table in the foyer of the main Arlington library for a March 2025 display. Karen printed photos from recent years, updated the display board and set it up on March 1 with flyers, newsletters, the goose, a signup sheet, Work Day handouts, and the Kari Percival design.

For the Bulk Mailing May solicitation, starting at the end of April into May, Anna Doctor and Karen will work with Calvary Church's "Helping Hands" to complete the annual contribution solicitation. Karen asked Adrienne to ask if we can take the solicitation letters to the church to stuff and seal the envelopes; Adrienne will find out.

Yolanda has resigned as General Vice-President, having taken on other responsibilities.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Jenny Babon solicited contributions for the Winter/Spring 2025 Newsletter with 11 people contributing. It was published 2/28/25, in time for distribution at the library display. Karen will mention the summer newsletter deadline at the May meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS AND NEXT MEETING DATE: May 4 7 PM Zoom TBA**

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Chrisman

Recording Secretary