

Present: Chuck Drake, Terry Langevin, Randy Lee, Jay Melley, Ford Parker, Nancy Taylor
Regrets: None

Absent: Linda Alexander, Florence Barlow, Vivian Cicero, John Carmon, Tim Curtis, Dick Dolliver, Mary Hogan, Linda Kollmorgan, Leslie Morgan-hompson, Lon Pelton, Bill Schoner, Debby Silliman

Meeting began just after 7pm.

Minutes from the past meeting were approved. (Thank-you Nancy)

The next meeting is Tuesday, May 8th at the Nature Center

Treasurers Report: Some materials are currently at the accountants. Still needed are Fidelity Fund information, current statements from Windsor Federal, and help with records to link deposits from 6/1/04 to specific items. The estimated fund balance is \$85,000.

Staff Report; Ford Parker: Two summer interns will be at the Park, one funded by the Town and one funded by the Friends. The Friends funded directional signs are scheduled to be completed by summer. The new sensory saunter trail is almost completed through the help of an abundance of community service personnel and coordinated by an Eagle Scout. Kathryn Grimshaw is looking for VOLUNTEERS for the new demonstration organic garden project.(285-1886). Another great maple sugaring season is currently winding down with many thanks to Chuck Drake for all his hard work. The weather station is down due to getting hit by lightning. A diagnostic will be run next week.

The first egg hunt “Who’s egg am I?” had about 100 participants at \$3 per person. Both plastic and realistic wooden bird eggs were hidden with the wooden eggs eventually placed in matching bird nests. It was a wonderful program and thank-you to everyone who made it happen.

We are looking forward to Earth Day next week with the help of Dawn Morgan bringing granola bars and water for the day. Thanks to Cyd Groff for heading up the initiative of bringing in sponsors for three demonstrations: Falconer, Bat Lady, and Magic Wings. Two raffles will also be held, a 50/50 cash raffle and an acorns in the jar raffle.

Nature Camp Scholarships have been initiated holding to Federal poverty guidelines. We look to expand this in the future.

The budget for NWP has been submitted and includes an intern plus half of Eric Davison. We are starting to build back in items which have been cut in the past.

Staff Report continued:

Police Training at the Park will be requested (via Officer Petkis) to either move to a more remote location or another venue due to poor coordination and lack of adherence to presubmitted guidelines. This event is not appropriate for viewing children.

Shad Derby, May 19th: Two tent locations on the Town Green will be set up as per past years. Ford will make sure the tents match together. VOLUNTEERS are needed for set-up (8:30am-9:30am), manning the booth from 11-2pm and shut down(3:45-4:30). If you are interested, call Terry at 298-9873.

Lecture Series: No Report

Pancake Breakfast: 450 people attended, 345 at full fare, \$5 and 106 children at \$4. The total income is \$2149 less expenses of \$341 plus the pancake mix cost for an estimated \$1800 profit. Thanks to the Beanery for getting us supplies at cost. It was a great success. Approximately 10 additional volunteers are needed for next years event. We are awaiting a final report from the Kate, the Breakfast coordinator.

Coffee Houses: Four more left this year with one next Saturday, Eric Anderson. Dates for next year have been submitted to the Park Staff for conflict review. We have lost WFCR for advertising due to the dropping of the Folk venue. A VOLUNTEER is needed to help with advertising next year. Please contact Chuck at 688-1718. We are more than half way there in providing monies for the 2006-7 Libby and Gordon Taylor Scholarship Fund! Great job everyone!

Discussion ensued in utilizing Pay Pal next year, allowing payment on line for a 3% fee. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to implement the system starting in the Fall. Randy agreed to provide Chuck with the names who utilize the service prior to the events.

Country Fair 2007 is on its way with Nancy Taylor and Kate Ferris-Morrell co-chairing the event. Nancy reported that she plans on having the organizational meetings beginning in late May. VOLUNTEERS contact Nancy at 688-3486.

Country Fair 2008: Due to the Town of Windsor 375th anniversary celebration next September, a VOLUNTEER is needed to liaison between the Friends and the 375th Committee. Contact Jay at 688-4129.

Motion unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Langevin, Secretary