

Attendees: Jay Melley, Terry Langevin, Ann Allen, Carol MacMullen, Lauren Grimshaw, Florence Barlow, Ford Parker, Chris Alford, Katie Horton (Spring Intern), Chuck Drake, Heidi Lindberg, Dawn Morgan

Regrets: Al Boehm, Bill Schoner, Lisa Bress (resigned), Mike Novak, Kate Lange, Randy Lee, Vivian Lee, Nancy Taylor.

Absent: Debby Silliman, Dick Dolliver, Lesley Morgan Thompson, Linda Alexander, Tim Curtis, Kate Ferris-Morrell, Lon Pelton, Mickey Mattei

The meeting started at 7:10 pm

April minutes were approved unanimously

Treasurer's report: The Accounting Review is complete.

Shad Derby: Many thanks to Ann Allen, Nancy Taylor, Dawn Morgan, Ford & Abbey Parker, Bridget and Jeff for making a great day. Terry reported that the weather was beautiful and as usual, the Park was represented well! Pictures were taken and an article will appear in the next newsletter. The store made approximately \$450 which will go towards exhibits.

Country Fair: September 20, Kate and Nancy will meet this weekend to discuss the book and other items. Some of the entertainment and pony rides are booked.

Volunteers needed: Publicity Chair, Kids Crafts coordinator, Decorating Chair, and various day of event jobs (selling tickets, taking tickets and babysitting the Tobacco museum). Anyone interested should contact Nancy at 688-3496 or kdgntchr@comcast.net They will have a meeting in July for anyone interested in participating.

Town Support for Northwest Park: When the first budget was rejected the Educator position was eliminated \$20,800 and \$175,000 for historical renovations in the Park.

The Van will not be financed even though there is money in the budget. We rent the van for \$5,000 per summer. \$174,000 was kept in the budget for facility improvements: Nature center, white barn, warming shed and the pond; however what was submitted was not what Ford put in the budget but changes can be made. It was suggested we invite Peter Souza or Emily Moon to a future meeting.

Staff Report: The museum director of exhibits for the Rockwell Museum, Russell Horton, is redoing the major sign which hangs in the front of the Nature Center. Katie Horton is our new spring intern just graduated from URI in animal science and technology. She worked here last year in the YCC. The signs in the animal barns require updating and correction of information. New signs will be created 18x24" imbedded fiberglass. She is also working on the 75'x45' organic gardening project. She will send a packet to Randy Lee to post on the web site. The taxidermy projects approved will also be finished. The water to the gardens is finished along

with winter water at the 2nd cow pasture. Nature camp is looking really good and is almost full. Steve Ryan won first place for “Portraits of Northwest Park” at the Historical Society.

** Due to a last minute intern withdrawal, a position is open for a 22 hour work week during the summer: Thursday, Friday and Saturday. If you know anyone interested, contact Ford. Attached is a report showing the number of people being serviced at the Park. 582 people are coordinated by the educator position.

Creatures of the Night coincides with a fund raiser for the Fire Department. They have requested 2 weekends for this upcoming year. Ford offered them two weekends which wouldn't work for them and wished to combine their event with ours. Theirs is a fright night vs. the Parks education event with small children. A suggestion was made to move creatures to November 1st to accommodate the Fire Department.

Leave No Trace & The relocation of the Dogpound are tabled due to Scott not being here and lack of knowledge about the pound. A suggestion was made to invite Peter Souza or Emily Moon to a future meeting.

Shredding event: Heidi Lindberg is interested in getting more people aware of Northwest Park. George Roebelyn of Iron Mountain is supportive of sending a portable shredder to the Park, all of which gets recycled into pulp. We could have a Friends membership table manned by Friends. It was unanimously supported by the group and a motion was made and approved for Heidi to look into the possibility of April 18th, earth day at NWP. Cyd Groff coordinates Earth Day.

Lower Farmington Wild & Scenic Designation: The committee of all the Towns on the lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook has been working for a year to achieve the designation similar to the Upper Farmington and Eight Mile Rivers in Connecticut. Federal monies will be available annually for River projects if the designation is achieved. It was suggested that we Sponsor a Library presentation for all those interested in the process and status of the Designation committee. Literature is available at the Park and in the future information will be posted in the exhibit area.

Membership: Lauren stated that the annual letter is expected to go out soon for the July 1-June 30th year. It was suggested to review the last years minutes for content.

We accepted the resignation of Lisa Bress with regrets and wish her well.

Earth Day 2008: Dawn reported that \$177 was the total cost to the Friends. \$222.12 will be donated to the open space fund in the name of the Friends. It was a gorgeous day, highly successful. Thank-you to Stop & Shop & Price Chopper and all 5 volunteers. Approximately 300 people attended.

Adjournment: 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted, Terry Langevin, Secretary

	FY:08												
Months:	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUG.</u>	<u>SEPT.</u>	<u>OCT.</u>	<u>NOV.</u>	<u>DEC.</u>	<u>JAN.</u>	<u>FEB.</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	Totals
<u>Activities</u>													
<u>Summer Camp</u>		473	(entire summer)										473
<u>Senior Programs</u>	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Participants	0	0	14	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	29	0	65
<u>Public Programs</u>	2	0	1	2	1	1	1	5	5	3	1	2	24
Participants	20	0	35	105	14	22	6	300	301	244	100	40	1187
<u>Special Events</u>	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	10
Participants	0	0	800	200	112	0	0	110	85	774	300	0	2381
<u>School programs</u>	1	0	0	6	10	8	3	3	17	9	14	5	76
Classes	2	0	0	24	31	13	9	7	45	22	90	17	260
Students	52	0	0	508	636	303	302	140	827	440	887	343	4438
<u>Challenged Youth</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	22	0	40
<u>Skiing & Snowshoeing</u>	0	0	0	0	0	200	300	300	100	0	0	0	900
<u>Nature Center Visitation</u>	600	600	500	400	300	200	200	200	300	400	500	600	4800
<u>Facilities Rentals</u>	36	34	24	29	15	5	5	5	18	18	40	43	272
Participants	3270	3304	2414	2150	910	250	250	250	870	1010	3530	4130	22338
<u>Other (describe)</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
											birthday party nature hik		0
Participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	25
											Total Users:		36174
Note: Casual hikers are not included in these statistics. A fair estimate would be around 15,000-20,000 people.													
Also, soccer field use is not included.													