

Friends of Northwest Park Meeting Minutes 3/24/09

Attendees: Randy Lee, Ann Allen, Jay Melley, Terry Langevin, Lon Pelton, Chuck Drake, Steve Ryan, Brian Allen, Michael Novak, April Vines, Chris Alford, Al Boehm, Dawn Morgan, Ford Parker, Jeff Lefkovich & Bill Nowak of JB Energy Solutions

Regrets: Florence Barlow, Vivian Cicero, Dick Dolliver, Nancy Taylor, Lauren Grimshaw, Bill Schoner, Kate Ferris-Morrell

Absent: Debby Silliman, Tim Curtis, Carol MacMullen, Kate Lang, Linda Alexander

The meeting began at 7:02 pm in the Nature Center.

Geothermal Report: JB Energy Solutions is the company the Town has chosen to report back on a proposal for the Nature Center. They focus on heating, ventilation, air conditioning. Their presentation included an analysis of the energy efficiency of the building, a geothermal proposal (determined to be the best energy source for the building), and a cost benefit analysis of the geothermal proposal. See Ford if you wish a hard copy of the proposal to view more details.

If I have time, I will scan it and e-mail it out.

The *Basic Requirement* for the Nature Center is to replace the fossil fuel system with a sustainable geothermal system running at 67% power for the most part, utilizing 100% when temperatures reach extremes. There are basically four options: closed loop vertical system (recommended-utilizes anti-freeze), open loop system (tend to fail); horizontal system (8 ft. down vs very deep); and a closed loop vertical system (4 wells, 2 five ton & 1 three ton heat pumps).

Issues discussed: Use of glycol and leakage potential; material the piping is made of (critter attacks); local systems(only residential not commercial & people very happy); the temperature control as in maintaining constant temperature 24 hours a day(a new way of doing things); educational component so classes can have access plus and exhibit(extra \$2K); a solar option was reviewed and cam in around \$230,000.

The next step: The Town Building Department will review the proposal in detail to go forward. \$106,847 is the cost pending soil/drilling problems. Ultimately Town Council will have to approve it. Clean Energy Act and State Tax Credit Program are being looked at for outside sources of funding.

Funding: The Town is prepared to spend \$77,000 so the Friends would need to cover 28% of the cost or \$30,000. The proposal requests went out to 12 companies and 3 started this process. JB Energy Solutions was chosen. It was moved and seconded that we

commit \$30K subject to Town review and Town Council approval. Discussion: We can have a capital campaign, look for grants, utilize auction proceeds. We have the money and should use it. Our job is not to collect money but spend it. It is a good project and good PR for the Friends. Efficiency improvements recommended to the building are separate from this project and have been started such as insulation above the store. Approved with one dissent.

Pancake Breakfast: Chuck needs morning slots for volunteers 7:30 to 9:3 and 9:30 to 11:00.

Auction: 15 tickets at \$35 for a total of \$525 were purchased by the Friends. Please purchase your tickets directly from Chris Alford and make checks out to the Friends of NWP. The Fisher Boat with motor was discussed. A motion was made to put the boat up for auction with a minimum bid of \$800. Approved.

Treasurers Report: See report posted on the web site. The Friends/Park 03 account is out of balance to the tune of approximately \$6,000. This will be looked into before we agree to pay this "balance" off.

Finance Committee: April 13th is the key date when anyone can make it should arrive at 6:15 at Town Hall when the Council reviews specifically NWP budget, and the whole recreation department budget. Thanks to Ann, April, Al and Lon for agreeing to definitely being there. We will need people to send out e-mails after the 13th meeting. Mike volunteered. Please let me know if you are willing to send out e-mails that week to Town Council and the Town Manager. On April 6th at 7:15pm, Terry will provide the Council with the new finance department data on benefits of a full time person and safety reasons why we should have at least one more full time staff person at the Park. Final Budget numbers will be voted on April 27th by the Council and then go out for a public vote.

Adjournment 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Langevin, Secretary