

Present: Ann Allen, Chuck Drake, Mary Hogan, Terry Langevin, Randy Lee, Mickey Mattei, Jay Melley, Dawn Morgan, Michael Novak, Ford Parker, Bill Schoner, Nancy Taylor
Regrets: Linda Alexander, Lisa Bress, Kate Ferris-Morrell
Absent: Chris Alford, Florence Barlow, Al Boehm, John Carmon, Vivian Cicero, Tim Curtis, Dick Dolliver, Linda Kollmorgan, Carol MacMullen, Leslie Morgan-Thompson, Lon Pelton, Debby Silliman.

Meeting began just after 7pm.

Minutes from the past meeting were approved.

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 11th at the Nature Center Have a nice summer!

Treasurers Report: See attached handout for reporting progress on a two year window. We're on target for a summer review. Open issues include getting the Fidelity account transferred to the current treasurer, paying Biz Hub which Mickey will help resolve and the defining of the past two years deposits which Nancy and Chuck agreed to help out with.

Staff Report: Ford reported the New Sensory Saunter Trail has been funded and supported by the NRCS Grant (habitat for wildlife), Town of Windsor, Boy Scouts, and Jeff. The plantings are almost completed.

The Boy Scouts put up the directional signs. Thanks to Joe Thrall for the posts.

The Demonstration Organic Garden showing organic methods has been initiated, thanks to Charlotte. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate the effort, perform maintenance, and perform demonstrations. Please e-mail Dawn Morgan who agreed to help coordinate the Volunteers with Ford.

Three summer interns are in place, two local and one from Rhode Island.

Summer Nature Camp is booming with all but a few sessions completely full. Finances are in good shape being \$13K above budgeted projections.

The Eco Tourism program is filling and Ford is looking forward to leading the trips.

Juan Valle is retiring after 18 years and moving back to Peru. Interviews are being held for a 20 hour per week janitorial position.

The Senior Program funded by the Hartford for Public Giving is going well. A medicinal program was held and the Caring Connection said people can't wait to come back.

The Audubon Grant Eric Davison worked on is complete. The Management Plan is complete with final documents to be updated on the web site.

See attached report for the status of projects funded by the Friends.

The Spring scheduled Burn has been delayed and rescheduled for next Spring under the same grant.

Two budget proposals(see attached detailed report) were brought forth:

\$4445 for signs and an audio system for the Sensory Saunter Trail

\$1200 for a composting bin to be built for the Organic Demonstration Garden Area

A motion was made by Mike and 2nd by Bill to support the \$4445. Discussion pertained to specific details of signs plus 2 MP3 players. It passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dawn and 2nd by Bill to approve the \$1200 for the compost structure.

Discussion included a question of having the floor in the design, utilizing the Trex material, defining the purpose as using it at the Organic Demonstration Garden which is approximately 25 x 25, utilizing skids or basic materials so people can look at it and say "I can do this". There was a comment that it would be nice to have it now so it can be used immediately. The proposal was withdrawn by Ford pending further investigation by the team who volunteers to run the garden area. The motion was then withdrawn.

Country Fair , 9/29/2007 is on its way with Nancy Taylor and Kate Ferris-Morrell co-chairing the event. Nancy reported that everything is rolling along. Dawn Morgan provided a notice for craft people wanted. (see attached).

Shad Derby, May 19th: We had about half the normal traffic due to inclement weather. Thanks to all who participated! The Bear and a caught Shad were brought down by the Staff and both were a big hit. The only down side was not having membership brochures to hand out for new members.

Lecture Series: Mary reported the potential for a series of four for next season, two in the fall and two in the spring with some being held at the Windsor Library. Potential topics included Hybrid vehicles, alternative fuels, and geothermal energy. Comments were made that it would be nice to have a slide show of Northwest Park prior to starting the lectures. Ford said it would make a nice Intern project.

Coffee Houses: Chuck reported May 18th closed the successful season even though we lost \$300 at that event. Net proceeds for the season were \$5018 and 1171 tickets were sold for 13 concerts. Many thanks to all those who supported this wonderful effort! Dates are approved for next season which will start in November with an attempt for 14 concerts. We wish everyone well for another successful season and we look forward to the results of using the Pay Pal system.

New Business: A Motion was made by Mary. Any amount for fund requests by the Staff over \$500 cannot be approved at the same meeting at which they are introduced without good cause shown. 2nd by Nancy. Discussion ensued which led to an amendment to the motion by Dawn. Any amount for fund requests by the Staff over \$500 requires a minimum two week pre-meeting distribution to the Trustees. Motion passed.

Volunteer Status: Organic Garden help: Still needed
Cross Country Skiing Assistant for the Winter: Still needed

Membership: We have no membership brochures. An electronic copy was distributed prior to the meeting for which there were several comments and changes. Terry agreed to make the changes and Randy to print 100 copies and more as needed prior to Chuck and the Membership Committee formally redoing the brochure for Country Fair distribution in September.

All Trustees are encouraged to look for opportunities to expand the Friends membership.

Motion unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Langevin, Secretary

Four Attachments:

Treasurer's information on 2 year review.

Staff information on projects funded by the Friends.

Staff Funding Request detail.

Flier for review on soliciting craft people for the Country Fair.