

MANCHESTER PARKS FOUNDATION

Board Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2012

Present: Ellen Rugemer, Bill Skinner, Sharon Hughes, Barbara Trump, Donna Davis, Ellen Frey, Justin Watts

Town of Manchester: Tammy Black

Volunteer:

Meeting called to order by Sharon Hughes at the town office at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes: Motion to approve, with correction for mower, by Ellen Rugemer. Seconded by Donna Davis.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve reports for October, November, December by Ellen Frey. Seconded by Barb Trump.

Guest: Boy Scout Isaac Downey with final paperwork to be signed by board for his Eagle Scout project. Photographs were available of area he created.

Naturalist Report: Sharon read the report, which included Sherry's request for her continuation of employment with us. Working only 2 days per month/some exceptions, canceling programs with lack of registration, changing program times, are a few of her concerns. Some programs are decreasing in size. She suggested a renewed effort in establishing contacts with home schooling groups, daycare centers, pre-schools and churches in the area to get better registration for programs. She still has not made definite plans to renew her contract.

Public Relations: Discussion to change times and dates of certain programs in order to make it easier on board members. To be resolved. Send fliers to home schools, daycare centers, scout groups, schools, etc. with all events and programs.

Programs:

The dates for upcoming programs and workdays are:

March 24—Egg stuffing/workday

March 31—Easter Adventure rain date: April 7

April 10—"Old Traditions—New Stories" Library

May 5—Spring Fest workday

May 6—Spring Fest
June 2—Fishing Derby Tentative
June 23—Bocce Ball #1
August 4—Bocce Ball #2
September 9—Benefactor Picnic
October 6—Bocce Ball #3
October 7—Memor Grove Planting

Black Friday exposure this year was not good. Better on Main Street.

Facilities:

- Pavilion under construction. Storage space 4X12 seems too large. Change to 8X8 with one door and a lock. Handicap ramp for both pavilions needed. Signage for parking at both sites also needed. Both pavilions and ramps to be done at the same time. Handicap ramp needs to be 60 ft.
- Check prices for small shed to be used as building storage. Check on whether building permit will be needed. May also need new gutter and downspout (after shrubs removed). Steve will help with the permit.
- The herb garden is completed. Sharon will write a letter to the scout—Ellen R. will help.
- Gate issue brought up by Tammy. Assured her that Balto. Co. officer is handling this as his schedule allows. All board members present ecstatic with the situation. Motion made by Ellen Rugemer to show appreciation to Steven and his family with a gift certificate of \$50.00 to Dutch Corner Restaurant. Motion seconded by Barb Trump.

Old Business:

- The sign holders presented not heavy enough. Certain Steve Miller will not allow sign in his yard. Ellen Rugemer will get with Sharon Hughes about sign she checked on. Entrance gate sign good idea. Bill Skinner said, "It is long overdue." Bill suggested plaques instead of signs for pavilions, but grant states sign is needed. \$500 allotted for this already.
- Will look into a remedy for sticking locks on outbuildings. Shed not always properly locked.
- Opening day Schedule—March-Justin, April-Donna, May-Spring Fest, June-Ellen Rugemer.

New Business:

- A letter will be drafted to Maryanne Turner giving her an option to resign from the board. Do not want to alienate her and would still like to have her support with our programs.
- Spring Fest suggestions made for a fishing clinic-Elle R. will check with Brooks R. and Sharon with Mickey.
- The questionnaires sent to schools have been returned. Barb Trump will tally for final results.
- A “Speaker Series” at the library was suggested.
- There are plenty of scouts available for projects this year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

PREPARED BY: Ellen J. Frey
Board Member