

MANCHESTER PARKS FOUNDATION

Board Meeting June 6, 2011

Present:

Sharon Hughes, Ellen Frey, Ellen Rugemer, Marcia Bogash, Donna Davis, Elsie McCleary, Barbara Trump, Justin Watts

Town of Manchester: Doug Myers

Guests: Vince DePalmer

Volunteer: Tom Smith

Boy Scout: Tommy Banz

Doug Myers began the meeting at 7:10 by announcing that he would no longer be the liaison between the Town and the Park. He brought a map of the Trails in the Park and will arrange for a CD to get a better copy. He will also try to stay on top of the Pond Pavilion and is hoping to submit it for rebid since it has been a year and a half. Money is still there from Open Space. He and Tom Smith discussed mowing issues that continue at the Park. Doug will discuss these with the Town and the new liaison. He hopes that the display area in the Office will be ready in a few weeks. Doug has done an excellent job in working with the Board and everyone expressed their gratitude.

Vince DePalmer: He is very concerned about food for the Bocce Ball Tournament on June 11. Bill Skinner has handled in the past but he has family medical issues and will not be available. He will ask people to bring their own food or order pizza to be delivered. Ellen Rugemer gave him the prizes.

Tommy Banz: Tommy did a presentation of his Eagle Scout Project which will be a kiosk for Memory Grove. It will be built of pressure treated wood, cedar shake roofing and plexi-glass. There will be a mulch bed under it. He will raise the money with Bake Sales at Wal Mart and hopes to do project this Fall.

Minutes: Approved as presented. Motion by Ellen Rugemer, second Barbara Trump.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as presented. Motion by Marcia Bogash, Second by Elsie McCleary. Organization has a new debit card. Donation received from girl scouts.

Naturalist Report: Attached

Ellen Rugemer was contacted by someone who has taxidermy pieces available to donate. The Board was definitely interested. Sharon Hughes will get a frame to display

the taxidermy permit. Discussion followed about a mural for the display. After much discussion Marcia moved, second by Elsie McCleary that this be tabled. Motion carried.

Public Relations: There have been 6 excellent press releases and 5 front page pictures of Nature Center activity. Barbara Trump reported on the success of the Ebb Valley visitation and what a super job that Justin had done. The students were excited about their finds and Stephen Israel did a follow-up at the school.

Programs:

- **Fishing Derby:** Very successful with 39 participants. This was the 16th year. Awards ceremony will be held on July 12 at the Town Office. Mickey McCleary will take care of the prizes.
- **Benefactors Picnic:** To be held on September 11 from 3-5 PM. It will be limited to Sponsors and Volunteers. It will not include the students who volunteered for credit hours. Also will include the Eagle Scout project people. Organization will provide chicken, rolls, beverages, and paper goods. Side dishes and desserts will be made by Board Members. Marcia and Barbara will coordinate food. Ellen Frey and Sharon will take care of invitations and guest lists.
- **June 18th Work Day:** Justin is trying to get volunteers.

Facilities:

- Tom Smith...Electric lines are now marked at his request. Town had no idea where they were when they had to dig tree holes. Some of the lines are under some of the trees but he feels that the trees should not be moved.
- Steiner picked up and serviced the mower. Battery needed to be replaced. Some tires also needed replacement.
- John Deere was also picked up and needs large amount of work. Tom expressed concerns about the cost of repairs on a 15 year old piece of equipment. He says that he is satisfied to just use the Steiner. Sharon will ask her husband Chris to check into what to do with the Deere.
- Stephen Israel is willing to do an Archaeology Display to be used at Black Friday.
- At a recent class by the Naturalist someone bringing a child drove faster than a neighbor believed necessary. She then came to the gate and began a verbal assault.
- Planting with Girl Scouts...every hole had a lot of dirt and stones piled up...Tom and Town hauled them away.
- Venture Group put in 300 plants. They all have plastic sleeves. Root systems on some are showing. Ellen R. will check with Venture Group as to these sleeves.
- Sharon reported problems with getting more keys for gate and keys for box in building.

- Steven Sunderland who lives in house next to Nature Center is willing to handle the opening and closing of the gate. Those who have bookings will need to show him some sort of approval.
- Sharon needs someone to man the facility for July. Justin will check schedule.
- Ellen Rugemer reported that the bins are purchased and that Bill will be making the housing unit.
- Justin has spoken to his father about the air-conditioning. He feels that it must be vented to run properly. Some come with sealing kits. Justin will investigate and report to Board.

New Business:

- Ellen Rugemer's son will be doing a Face Book Page for the Nature Center.
- Ellen Rugemer wishes to plant a tree. Marcia moved, seconded by Elsie McCleary that she be permitted to do so. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15PM

Submitted, Marcia Bogash, Sec.