

**June 9, 2014 – CONC Manchester Parks Foundation Board of Directors Meeting**

**Members Present:** Chair Ellen Rugemer, Vice-chair Bill Skinner, Treasurer Marcia Bogash, Secretary Donna Davis, Ellen Frey, Barbara Trump, Robin Fishpaw, Vince DePalmer, Justin Watts.

**Volunteer:** Tom Smith

**Guests Present:** Martha Lang, Bruce Smith

**Call to Order:** by Chair Ellen Rugemer at 7:10 PM.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Marcia Bogash to accept the minutes for the May 2014 meeting. Motion seconded by Barb Trump. Minutes accepted as presented.

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurer Marcia Bogash and Ellen Rugemer completed the 2013 tax forms and submitted corrected state non-profit forms. Income from SpringFest was \$1,693.00. Costs total was \$1,127.41 for total profit of \$565.59. The 50/50 raffle distribution of \$54.00 has been awarded to the winner. A motion was made by Ellen Frey to accept the Treasures report. The motion was seconded by Bill Skinner and passed.

**Naturalists Report:** No report.

**PR:** no report

**Programs:**

Bocce Ball- Vince DePalmer reported that there are 15 teams signed up for the games scheduled for June 21. There is room for 5 more teams. He and Bill Skinner assisted with the Special Olympics Bocce Tournament in Towson and report that it was a long but fantastic day.

Autumn Planting- Marcia Bogash reported that to date 20 donations have been received in memory/honor of loved ones and she expects that there will be many family members attending the tree planting ceremony and reception. Action items to be taken include determining planting site, species and purchasing the tree, sending invitations and arranging for refreshments.

**Facilities:**

Building: Severe flooding occurred again in the building during a heavy May rain. The rainwater seems to be channeling from the parking lot, down the walkway and entering the building under the front door. Bill Skinner will meet with Town Manager Steve Miller to discuss options for re-directing the waterflow. One option may be to cut diagonal run-off channels in the walkway with a concrete saw to intercept the water and direct it to the adjacent landscape beds. Bill has purchased a ShopVac for the center.

Maintenance- Tom Smith reported that the trails remain in fairly good shape. Some mulching, trimming, and additional tree work is needed to complete clearing trails after the storm. Someone is damaging more trees in the woods with a hatchet.

Archeology: Tom Smith reported that Steve Israel did a few test pits around the pond and George's home on Walnut St. Steve plans to complete and then close the unit he had open at the picnic table during SpringFest this month, weather permitting.

Pond: EcoTone performed another water test and has installed several temperature devices in the pond.

**Old Business:**

Phone system: Marcia Bogash contacted Verizon to research options for a more efficient phone system for the nature center. She signed up for the Verizon answering service, which she will hook up shortly. This service will only add \$2 to \$3 dollars more to the monthly phone bill and will allow Executive Board members to remotely access phone messages and update the center's answering message using a code.

York Street Sign: Ellen Rugemer is still working on possible options.

Water/Sewer grant: no new information.

Analemma: Bill Skinner met with Mr. Clark to discuss the location of the pole and reference points. The pole will be set in the ground, not on the pavilion roof as previously discussed, but between the pavilion and the bench near the building. PVC pipe filled with sand or concrete could be used for the 9 foot pole instead of wood to avoid warping. The points will be bricks embedded into the ground so they can be mowed over. Mr. Clark will donate the cost of installation. The Board discussed the possible educational merits of this device. Marcia Bogash motioned to allow Mr. Clark to install the device. Motion seconded by Bill Skinner and passed.

Telescope: Justin Watts provided the Board with pictures of an "Astro-Closet". This is a box-like structure housing a platform on tracks. The Westminster Astronomical Society deems this closest appropriate to store the telescope that might be donated to the nature center.

**New Business:**

Gate Policy: After some discussion, the Board rescinded the dawn to dusk gate policy and agreed to keep the gate locked unless the nature center is open for programs or functions.

School Use of Facilities: The Board discussed the need to review a facility notification and use policy with Manchester Elementary and Ebb Valley. Justin Watts suggested making a short presentation at the school Faculty Board meetings that are scheduled in late summer just before the school year starts.

With no other business, Ellen Frey made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM. The next meeting will be 7:00 PM, Monday, July 14, 2014, at the Nature Center.

*Minutes prepared by Donna Davis, Secretary*