

# **MANCHESTER PARKS FOUNDATION**

## **Board Meeting      September 9, 2013**

Present: Sharon Hughes, Barbara Trump, Ellen Rugemer, Ellen Frey, Justin Watts, Vince DePalmer, Bill Skinner, Marcia Bogash

Volunteer: Tom Smith

Guests: Town Liaison-Debra L. Howe, Tammy Black, Steve Miller – Town Manager, Westminster Astrological Society, Julie Cuomo

Meeting Called To Order: Sharon Hughes-7:05 PM at the Nature Center

Meeting Minutes: Approved as presented. Motion by Ellen Rugemer. Seconded by Justin Watts

Treasury Report: Approved as presented. Motion by Ellen Frey, seconded by Barb Trump.

Naturalist Report: None

Facilities: Park and trails in good condition reported by Tom Smith. Mower still having problems. We can perhaps sell old one and get new mower for the park. Steve Miller will try to put a new lawn mower into the next town budget for the center. Puppy bags will go up this week. Bill Skinner is removing shrubbery to make space for new compost bin project. We also need signage for this area.

Old Business: Stephen Israel will return for digs again this week. Ellen Rugemer contacted various people about trail maps. No good results. Maybe we can make our own from a GPS program. Tom Smith will make a call to a map maker. Ellen Rugemer will call friends with GPS phones. The Sustainable Committee Report given by Marcia Bogash, concerned grant funding and the historic components for the center as well as the history of Manchester. Barbara Trump and Justin Watts attended high school stampede event. They signed up some new volunteers for our events, etc. In November we need to collect and stack cobblestones and more mulching. Vince DePalmer gave money recap from last bocce tournament. Give A Gift to Nature Program collected \$50.00.

New Business: The Westminster Astrological Society presented a presentation to the nature center and the town concerning a plan to place an observatory on the center's grounds. The pitched 24 X 32 building with a roll-off roof. Will hold two telescopes. They have raised all the money except for a pad and maybe a fence for this unit. They also have a telescope that was donated to them. This will need a smaller pad (10' 7" X 13' 2"). They will take care of the operation of either unit. The town will have to furnish electric and cement pad. Steve Miller, Town Manager, is totally in favor of this project. He will bring it to the attention of the town tomorrow night at their monthly meeting. Marcia Bogash made a motion to accept the idea of

having an observatory on the nature center grounds if the town gives their permission. Seconded by Bill Skinner.

Motion to adjourn made by Ellen Frey at 8:48 PM. Seconded by Justin Watts.

Prepared by Ellen Frey  
Board Member