

Manchester Parks Foundation

Minutes from February 7, 2005
Recorded and submitted by Sharon Hughes, Treasurer

OFFICERS

- √ Ellen Rugemer, President
- * Bill Skinner, Vice-President
- * Brenda Wulforst, Secretary
- √ Sharon Hughes, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

- √ Jenny Walters
- √ Betty Smith
- √ Donna Baker
- √ Marcia Bogash
- * Elsie McCleary

(A check (√) indicates presence at the date above, and an asterick (*) indicates notification of absence.)

The Manchester Parks Foundation monthly meeting was called to order on February 7, 2005, at the Manchester Town Office by President Ellen Rugemer at 7:05 PM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Minutes from the January meeting were read.
- A motion was made by Sharon Hughes to accept the January minutes as written, and was seconded by Betty Smith. The minutes stand approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Treasurer's Report was presented by Sharon Hughes
- January Report: Income-\$3,789.00 Expenditures-\$380.05
- Balance-\$5,789.00
- Marcia Bogash made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Betty Smith seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report stands approved.

Programs

- **Earth Kids Club**- February 11 4:30 PM-6:00 PM They are making compost bins.
- **Easter Adventure**-March 19 10:00 AM-? *rain date-March 26*
 - Ellen Rugemer will get candy for filling the eggs.
 - Sharon Hughes will get the prizes.
 - Will decide on a date to stuff the eggs at next month's meeting.
 - Four age groups again this year: 0-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12. This year the oldest group will hunt eggs in the Riparian Buffer area instead of at the top of the hill.
- **Spring Fest**-May 1 12:00 PM-5:00 PM
 - Bluegrass Band received contract from Steve Bankert. Will need 2 extension cords—we will try to keep them as close to the building as possible. No stage needed. Pay that day.
 - Ellen Rugemer reported that Janet Springer no longer does butterfly programs.

- David Pyle will try to come and do a wildflower walk. Not able to commit at this time.
- Marcia Bogash sent out letters to organizations in Carroll County inviting them to join us for Spring Fest,
- Donna Baker is not sure if the Stream Table will be available.
- The Forestry Board will have a display and will provide a Deer box. Naturalist Sherry Fisher or one of the Forestry Board members could do the Whitetail Deer program. The box has a video, Project Wild info., and Touch and Feel items.
- Donna Baker is not able to be there until after 12.
- Chief Lewis will display Safety pamphlets.
- Steve Bankert will talk to Steve Miller about doing his Spring Walk again.
- Sharon Hughes will see about a PTA Representative or some kind of Manchester Elementary School involvement.
- The Earth Kids Club is to do a puppet show if we agree to purchase the puppets.
- **Fishing Derby-June 18**
 - 8-8:30 AM Registration for up to age 9 years
 - 10-10:30 AM Registration for 10- 15 year olds
 - FEE \$1.00

Whose authority is it to make the pond “Catch & Release”? Tom Smith also saw someone dumping fish into the pond in the past.

Facilities:

- The issue of painting the building this spring was talked about. Painting is tentatively scheduled for April 23rd at 9 AM. The building needs to be brushed off in preparation. How to do the painting was discussed: brush, roller or sprayer. Inventory and other Spring Fest preparations will be done this day as well.
- Looking at setting up areas for Spring Fest and other preparations on April 30th.
- Betty is looking into the possibility of 4th grade Earth Day Activities on April 22nd. They will only use the grounds, not the building. Will let us know the outcome of this next month.
- Usual issues—The picnic table that had the seats damaged so we removed them is now missing its legs. Children were using it for snowboarding.

Old Business

- Sherry Fisher has accepted the position as Part-time Naturalist. She will begin when we reopen on March 1, 2005. She is already planning a preschool program for the first Friday morning of each month. Sharon Hughes will meet with Sherry on Friday at the Earth Kids Club meeting to finalize plans and to sign a contract.
- The Board decided they want Sherry on Sundays. She is to do at least one general public program per month—preferably the first Sunday of each month if possible to establish consistency.

New Business

- Steve Bankert brought to our attention that two women are interested in using the Nature Center grounds for their wedding in August.
- Sharon Hughes asked the Board for permission to spend approximately \$75.00 to purchase animal puppets for our new Puppet Theatre that Naturalist Sherry Fisher and the Earth Kids Club are putting together. Marcia Bogash made a motion to allow more to be spent to purchase quality items since these are an investment for the nature center. The Board agreed to spend \$100.00. Steve Bankert donated an additional \$50.00 to purchase a Great Horned Owl puppet in memory of his mother. The puppet will be named Helen in her honor.
- Newsletter Deadline for any information is March 1st. The newsletter is slated to be printed by the middle of the month.
- Naturalist Sherry Fisher and the Earth Kids Club are building compost bins at the Earth Kids Club meeting on Friday, February 11th. They are to donate one of the compost bins to the center to use or to raffle off, whatever the Board decides.
- Community Calendar—needs to be updated. Ellen Rugemer's name is to be the main contact with the nature center's phone number and if Naturalist Sherry Fisher so wishes her name and phone number will be the second contact. Sharon Hughes will update the information online.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.