

Manchester Parks Foundation

Minutes from **January 2, 2006**
Recorded and submitted by Sharon Hughes

OFFICERS

- ✓ Ellen Rugemer, President
- ✓ Bill Skinner, Vice-President
- C Brenda Wulforst, Secretary
- ✓ Sharon Hughes, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

- C Jenny Walters
- ✓ Betty Smith
- Donna Baker
- ✓ Marcia Bogash
- Elsie McCleary

(A check "✓" indicates presence at the date above a C represents an absence call.)

Volunteer Tom Smith and Councilman Steve Bankert were also present.

President Ellen Rugemer called the meeting of the Manchester Parks Foundation to order at 7:15 PM at Charlotte's Quest Nature Center.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Minutes from the November meeting were read.
- Marcia Bogash motioned to accept the September Minutes as read and Bill Skinner seconded the motion. The Minutes were passed as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- The November Treasury Report was presented by Sharon Hughes:
December income - \$ 30.00
August expenses - \$369.12
Balance - \$5,443.00
- Marcia Bogash made a motion to accept the December Treasury Report. Bill Skinner seconded the motion. The Treasury Report stands approved.

NATURALIST REPORT:

- Spring Fest-We should set up major categories.
- Interested in acquiring small taxidermy
- Interested in storage next to the pond for pond study equipment.
- To Do List
- Sunday Scheduling-pay someone \$7 to sit and answer phones, etc. on the first and third Sundays of each month. Would like to meet the person/persons and would like written references.
- Still needs to turn in Nov. and Dec. hours.
- Schedule change-moving Outdoor Classroom to the 1st Friday and Nature Nook to the 2nd Friday.
- Looking into doing a Frog Walk and a Pond Class in March & April. May be incorporated into Outdoor Classroom.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

- Marcia B. presented the new OPEN TODAY and SPRING FEST banners.
- She has received a price for redoing our current sign with a baked aluminum finish on both sides \$370.00. She also got prices for heavy plastic a-frame signs \$215.00 - \$265.00. They are a little larger than "wet floor" ones.
- We have the display case for March—in time for the Easter Adventure.
- She has 2 press releases—one for volunteers—one to advertise the center and its activities.

PROGRAMS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Crafts was well attended. We will discuss at a later time whether to charge and do fewer but nicer crafts or keep the program as is.

- Outdoor Classroom-Moved to the first Friday of each month beginning in the month of April.
- Nature Nook-Because of the move of Outdoor Classroom, Nature Nook will be moved to the second Friday of the month.
- Earth Kids-Continues to meet at the center throughout the winter weather permitting.
- Manchester Parks Foundation Meetings-the first Monday of each month at 7PM.
- Easter Adventure-April 8, 2006 at 10:00 AM sharp. Rain date: April 15-same time.
- Spring Fest- Sunday, May 7th the first Sunday.

FACILITIES

- Tom & Betty checked for the dead deer on the trail that we were made aware of. No deer was found.
- The Pond drain had again clogged. Tom S. unclogged the drain of seeds the day after Christmas. New Year's Eve was again clogged. He shook the drain to loosen and then put 3 layers of chicken wire around the drain to help catch the seeds.
- A tree down near Avian Cove is leaning-should come down-Steve B. will take care of this issue.
- The trails are in good shape.

OLD BUSINESS

- Betty purchased 15 pairs of binoculars for \$210.00.
- The mulch left near the council ring has been spread and the council ring project looks to be complete.
- The motion light near the door and the parking lot is working properly again-Thank you Tom Smith!
- Tom S. received the four "Authorized Vehicles Only" signs from Steve B. and they have been installed on the property.
- Sharon H. will look into prices for the TEAM Effort tree.

NEW BUSINESS

- Brenda Wulforst has resigned from the Secretary position. Marcia Bogash has agreed to fulfill Brenda's remaining time on the Board. Sharon H. made a motion to accept Marcia stepping up to an Executive position. Betty S. seconded the motion. The Board gladly accepted.
- A letter from the Department of Agriculture. If there is any indication of the Gypsy Moth on the property the Board will be notified in February.
- The Town will soon be ready to start their budget for the next fiscal year. Some suggestions were made for Budget possibilities such as a storage shed and a 0 turn mower as well as the previous budget items that have been allotted to the Board.
- Eagle Scout Sam Peregoy has requested the use of the field for his Eagle Scout Presentation, which he wishes to hold on April 2, 2006. The Board agreed.
- Sharon brought up condensing our present Mission Statement. We chose to use the list and not detail each item, especially for grants.
- Recycling For Education is now going on at the center. Three dollars will be earned for every eligible used ink cartridge the center receives and turns in for recycling.
- Tom S. donated four outdoor extension cords to the center; at last count 2 appear to be missing.

Marcia Bogash made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Betty Smith seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.