

MANCHESTER PARKS FOUNDATION

BOARD MEETING **May 4, 2009**

Present: Sharon Hughes, Betty Smith, Elsie McCleary, Ed Poe, Marcia Bogash, Ellen Frey, Ellen Rugemer

Absent: Donna Davis, Bill Skinner

Volunteers: Tom Smith

Eagle Scouts: Kevin Utz, Loren Haines

Meeting called to order at Charlotte's Quest Nature Center by Chairperson Sharon Hughes at 7:08 PM.

Minutes: approved as read. Motion by Betty Smith, second by Elsie McCleary

Treasurer's Report: No report available.

Eagle Scout Presentations:

Loren Haines Troop 483 Silver Run

Plans to build 3 benches at Memory Grove. To be 5 feet long and 40 inches from ground. He is also planning wren boxes to provide a habitat for wrens and other song birds. Benches will be placed in mulch pits enclosed with treated wood. He as reviewed location of benches with Ellen Rugmer. Time frame to begin this summer.

Kevin Utz Troop 320 Manchester

Plans to build an enclosure for the Taxidermy that has been donated. He will create a platform that will snow the animals in a natural environment by placing leaves and bark, etc. Enclosure will attach to wall and floor. Front of enclosure will be plexiglass with a railing to be at least 36 inches tall. Time line again is to begin this summer.

Ellen Frey moved and Marcia Bogash seconded this project. Betty Smith approved it but would like to see a drawing before it begins. Ellen Rugemer will arrange to get drawings to some Board members.

Public Relations: Very good media coverage for the last 3 events.

Naturalist Report: six field trip inquiries recently. Earth Kids have been working on flower bed along the path.

Programs:

Easter Adventure Egg Hunt: Most problems from past years resolved. Too much difference in 1-3 year olds. Ellen and Linda Skinner carried eggs for the little ones who did not know what to do. Age signs were very helpful. Parking concerns and pulling out issues were discussed. The scouts were a big help with parking. It was agreed that information and rules would be given to drivers as cars entered the grounds. Crowd at least equal if not more than 2008. It was agreed that the scouts be given some small token (bag of candy) and that donuts be provided.

April 6 event at North Carroll Library:

Stephen Israel's presentation attracted 54 people. Refreshments were well received and 30 bags of literature on facility were handed out.

Spring Fest:

A motion made by Marcia Bogash and seconded by Betty Smith that event be cancelled in bad weather was passed. Sharon Hughes would like to see telephone numbers for all Vendors so that they can be notified.

Fishing Derby:

Will be held on June 27th at Walnut Pond. Elsie McCleary still has concerns about amount of fish in pond. Mickey McCleary is taking care of the prizes. Ellen Rugemer will pick up candy for each participant.

Facilities:

- Work Day held on April 18th. Betty Smith coordinated the day. There were 4 members of Cornerstone Church there to help as well as Sharon Hughes, Ed Poe, Marcia Bogash, Claudia Bogash and Betty Smith. Middle school age boys came in the afternoon. Betty Smith worked with them to remove briars and vines. Send letter to Lifepoint Church, 1701 Emory Road, 21136 Life Expectation Group.
- Tom Smith-Builder back to complete Pavilion work. Handicap tables may need to be anchored. He expressed concerns about tipping over. Mowing done, trails in good shape. He shared a magazine that he got at the library that states that Pine Valley Park allows off road vehicles. www.healthlycarroll.org.
The Partnership
535 Old Westminster Pike
Suite 102 21157
410-871-6373

Pond- No update on expert.

Old Business:

Greenway: Ebb Valley would like a set of keys. Betty Smith met with 7 teachers. She led them on a walk over to the Park which took 1 hour and 13 minutes to cover including Tour and back to school. Ebb Valley would like to use on an as needed basis and possibly have end of year picnic at facility. Betty has explained trash removal policy. Wayne Thoms seems agreeable to people crossing his property.

Pavilion: Sharon Hughes proposed idea of renting pavilion for private parties. Board asked for time to discuss this topic and ramifications of rental.

Trash cans: There are none at Pond. Sharon to contact Town.

Memory Grove Sign: Nearing completion.

By-Laws: Executive Board to meet to discuss and come back to Board.

Tom Smith expressed concerns about a piece of property that is for sale near Steve Bankert's house.

Street Sign: Yellow paint on road sign seems to help draw attention.

Chestnut Tree Planting Program: Betty Smith says that trees need to be measured and marked.

Spot-A-Pots: Tom Smith suggested putting up some type of screen. Three postes up about 12 feet using alternating boards. The wood would be up 6 inches from bottom for access of truch removal.

New Business:

- Bocceball Tournament. Vince DePalmer has a court. He has had it scaled like the one in Little Italy. He wants to donate proceeds to Charlotte's Quest. It will be on Father's Day. Great Idea but not a good day.
- Reserve Funds held by Town: Motion made by Marcia Bogash and Seconded by Ellen Frey that remaining money from Open Space be used for a Pavilion near the Pond with a storage area for Pond equipment.
- Cornerstone Church wishes to use facility for Vacation Bible School. Some evenings. Troop 665 uses facility Tuesday nights year round.

8:45 Ellen Rugemer made motion to adjourn, seconded by Ellen Frey.

Marcia Bogash, Secretary