

**FRIENDS OF WORCESTER
JANUARY 13, 2004 - MEETING MINUTES**

Attendees: Kim David, Wini & Rob Hayes, Susan Caughlan, Jeannie Steigerwalt, Dave Cardy, Carla Evans, Louise Lennon & Barb McMonagle

Location: Home of Jeannie & George Steigerwalt, 1028 Grange Avenue, Worcester, PA

Agenda Preview

FOW COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President's Report: The results to our fundraising efforts this fall were the best ever. We would like to thank everyone for their support!

FOW Goals For 2004

- 1) Education Outreach – Educating all residents through our newsletter, presentations, brochure, etc.
- 2) Enhancement of Township Zoning Ordinances a) to be more open space friendly, b) establish historic preservation ordinance, c) sign ordinance, d) Village Commercial ordinance, e) fence ordinance.
- 3) Increasing member involvement – that “community” feeling

Established Annual donations of \$50 each to: Montgomery County Lands Trust, 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania and Natural Lands Trust. All have been very helpful during the year and this will show our support.

Elected Officers for the year and Committees.

Thank you Rob & Wini for hosting the Holiday Party. It was a wonderful evening.

Treasurer's Report: \$4892.01 as of 11/30/03.

Membership Report: It is always great to have members attend our meetings. Everyone is welcome. We are emailing the minutes and agenda to members. Email us at info@friendsofworcester.org if you would like to be added to the list.

Fundraising Report: We would like to thank everyone for their continued support of FOW.

WORCESTER TOWNSHIP MEETING REPORTS:

Board of Supervisors: John Westrum, Stump Hall Road Assoc. of Fort Washington received conditional use approval for the Reserve at Center Pointe. Plans are for 25 lots on 55.8 acres at 1545 Trooper Rd. They want an onsite community sewage treatment plant which still needs approval.

Beginning the first Monday of each month BOS will have a public work session.

Also, a Worcester resident has given an anonymous \$50,000 donation toward the open space program.

Zoning Board Plans for an Eckerd Drug at Germantown Pike & Valley Forge Road (Milner Property) and Allen Myers' plan for the corner of North Wales Road & Township Line Road for 3 buildings (2 with offices above) were approved with no conditions worth mentioning. **Why is our zoning board not enforcing our zoning ordinances?** *FOW would like to thank all the residents who attended the zoning meetings.*

Joint Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors: Standard concern: There is too much development. What can we do about it?

Planning Commission Work Sessions: Almost finished updating the Worcester Comprehensive Plan. This is the basis for future development in our township. Residents should review and give input on comprehensive plan while it is still in draft form.

Regular Meeting: PC was presented and rejected plans for the Eckerd site. Eckerd will be coming back at their next meeting 1/22/04.

CURRENT ISSUES

Open Space Program – The Worcester supervisors have created a committee to review the Open Space Plan. The township is looking at preserving a chain of properties near Stump Hall Road and Hollow Road along stream corridors to NIKE Park on Trooper Road. This is a great plan moving forward.

Dubner (Fairview Auto)/Milner - The Zoning Board approved variances for an Eckerd Drug on the Milner property. Currently, the plans are being reviewed by the Planning Commission. We are still working with the developer on the Dubner property. FOW would like to give additional input – less impervious surface, less parking and more open space before plans are presented to the township.

Greenway Plan – The final plan will be presented January 28, 2004, 7 PM at Fairview Village Community Hall.

Worcester Historical Society - Have been using the Farmers Union Hall for their meetings and storage of their historical collection. The township owns the building which is in need of repairs. Members of the WHS met with one supervisor concerned about their future use of the building. The WHS will assess other additional uses of the building, its needs and present a plan to the Supervisors in 6 months.

Historic Building Preservation – Need to create a historic building ordinance. Possibly FOW could work with Worcester Historical Society.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Newsletter – Suggestions for our next newsletter:

President's Report

Allen Myers/Dubner/Milner: Why do we have Zoning Ordinances?

Greenway Update

FOW 2nd Annual Photo Contest

Sewer Update

Flea Market & Horse Show

Update Open Space Plan

Pursue Open Space Preservation

Road show – in development stage

We need your help in producing our newsletter. We plan to mail the next issue in late March/early April. If you have time to help us when we print, fold or label our next newsletter, or have a folding machine we can use, please contact Barb McMonagle at 215-699-8225.

Partners for Land Preservation – No Meeting. There are 3 meetings per year.

Website – Visit our website: <http://www.friendsofworcester.org>. Please leave your email address so we can email you the minutes. We are constantly updating the website with current information such as: meeting dates, events, newsletters & minutes.

Expand our efforts that Open Space Preservation = Lower Taxes

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please Join Us By Attending Our Monthly Meetings & Events.

February 10, 2004, Tuesday 7:30 P.M. Home of Wini & Rob Hayes, 3033 Fisher Rd 610-584-0371

March 10, 2004, Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Location to be announced.