

**FRIENDS OF WORCESTER
FEBRUARY 10, 2004 - MEETING MINUTES**

Attendees: Kim David, Rob Hayes, Susan Caughlan, Jeannie Steigerwalt, Marie Amato, George Rogers, Hansell Stedman, Charley Muir & Barb McMonagle

Location: Home of Wini & Rob Hayes, 3033 Fisher Rd , Worcester, PA

Agenda Preview

FOW COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President's Report: Where should FOW meet? Since it's inception, FOW has been meeting at member homes. We would like to have more people attend our meetings. We are considering meeting in a more public place.

Treasurer's Report: \$5702.53 as of 1/31/04.

Membership Report: Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. 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 Work Session: Willow Creek Orchards still needs approval from PENNDOT for their driveway. The Scarlett property on Shearer Road will be preserved. It should close within 45 days. The Greenway meetings are complete and final recommendations will be submitted to the supervisors. The DEP addressed the BOS regarding contaminated water on Methacton Ave. in Fairview Village.

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting: No meeting.

Zoning Board - No Meeting .

Joint Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors: No Meeting. Next meeting March 1, 2004.

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: Eckerd Drugs presented elevations. The PC couldn't agree 1/27. Gordon Todd offered his help. Came back on 2/5 and approved new changes.

CURRENT ISSUES

Open Space Program – There will be a county Open Space Workshop for Municipalities on Feb 26. Open Space Committee will begin to meet after the workshop. Two local properties have applied for the State Farmland Preservation Program – Palmer and Schierenbeck. Scarlett property has been approved by the State Farm Board.

Dubner (Fairview Auto) - FOW is continuing to meet with the developer. The developer is hoping to go before the Planning Commission shortly with his plans for a village style shopping center.

Milner Property - Watson Olszewski from Montgomery County Planning Commission sent a letter to PC against the Eckerd. Unfortunately, it was received after the Zoning Hearing Board had already approved

Eckerd's request for variances. There's a rumor that Eckerd is being sold to Rite Aid, CVS or Brooks. Allen Kann, the developer of the Eckerd site has offered to put deed restrictions for no 24 hour operation and no liquor sales. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) still needs to approve it. The BOS can appeal the Zoning Board approvals which granted approvals for the size of the building from 6500 sq. ft. to 9227 sq. ft. and impervious coverage greater than 70%, well over the township limit of 50%.

Greenway Plan – The final plan was presented January 28, 2004. FOW wrote a letter in support of the plan. The township newsletter contains a survey & map. We urge everyone to complete it and return it to the township.

Farmers Union Hall – Worcester Historical Society will assess other additional uses of their building and present a plan to the Supervisors in 5 months. Some ideas include – Obtain grant money to document their Collection of historical artifacts and use of the building for other purposes. The township will be repainting the building.

Historic Building Preservation – We need an ordinance to protect Historic Buildings. This would encourage builders not to tear down historic houses. It may require developing a Historic Buildings Register. This ordinance also could be useful to block the widening of roads or stop turnpike development. FOW and Worcester Historical Society could work together on this.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Newsletter – In process of writing articles. 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.

March 9, 2004, Tuesday 7:30 P.M. Bean Road Nursery, Bean and Whitehall Roads, Worcester for info call Kim David 610-584-1805.

April 14, 2004, Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Home of Jeannie & George Steigerwalt, 1028 Grange Ave, Worcester, 610-489-7904

May 2004, Date and location to be determined.

June 5, 2004, Saturday 8:00 A.M., 64th Farmers Union Horse Show and Friends of Worcester Flea Market & Raffle, at Heyser Field behind Worcester Township Community Hall, Valley Forge Road, Fairview Village. For more information contact Marie Amato 610-630-0254.