

## **Friends of Worcester meeting minutes      Meeting date: April 12, 2006**

Present: Marie Amato, Don Atkinson, Kim David, Bill Fox, Rob Hayes, Wini Hayes, Barb McMonagle, Doug Rotondo, Susan Caughlan

The March meeting minutes were approved as written and will be posted at [friendsofworcester.org](http://friendsofworcester.org).

**President's Report.** Kim David recognized the effort of many FOW supporters in supporting the township supervisors during the hearings to enact the Growing Greener amendments. He thanked the supporters who took the time to attend meetings and write e-mails and letters in support of this effort.

**Treasurer's Report.** No report was available.

**Contribution and Support.** Barb McMonagle noted that there are supporters to whom we are mailing minutes and agendas who could receive these reports via e-mail. If you receive agendas and minutes in the mail and you have e-mail, please provide us with your e-mail address so that we can add you to our distribution list. E-mail distribution allows FOW to use more of our funds for our program activities. Please also let us know if you have any trouble opening the e-mail attachments.

**Fundraising/Hospitality.** The Horse Show is Saturday, June 3. FOW will be doing the food tent as usual. Barb McMonagle and Marie Amato are coordinating the menu and signup. We discussed plans to sell photo note cards of the Methacton oak. Don Atkinson, Susan Caughlan, and Barb McMonagle will work on the details. We discussed advertising the note cards on our website. No decision was reached.

### **Township Reports.**

**Board of Supervisors.** The Board discussed plans for Phase 3 of the Heebner Park development plans, which include constructing a building to house rest rooms as well as provide storage areas.

**Planning Commission.** The Planning Commission accepted three new development plans for review: the 60-acre Kibblehouse farm on Weber & Berks Rds; the 16-acre Sparango tract on Berks Rd; and the 10-acre Horgan tract near the corner of Morris & North Wales Rds. Details on these developments are on FOW's website. The WPC will begin meeting twice a month, with the first meeting being a working session to complete the Comprehensive Plan and address various ordinance changes.

**Zoning Hearing Board.** The Board heard a variance request by John Westrum for lot 24 at the Reserve at Center Point to site the sewage treatment facility and riding ring with reduced setbacks, and a variance request by Sparango Development Co. to allow a flag lot on Bethel Road.

**Joint Meeting.** The next Joint Meeting is Monday, June 5, at 9:30 a.m.

**Newsletter.** We discussed various article topics. The schedule calls for the newsletter to be finished by May 8 and mailed by May 22. We have received several ads already, and a few more are on the way.

**Outreach.** The joint FOW/FLP stormwater program will be held Saturday, Sept 30, at Worcester Community Hall. We will advertise it in the newsletter with a "save the date" notice. We discussed raffling off several rain barrels to encourage homeowners to attend. Susan will research sources for rain barrels.

**Website Development.** The Land Developments page is now up to date with aerial photos of each site for which development plans have been filed, thanks to the efforts and creativity of Bill Fox.

### **Current issues.**

**Open Space Plan.** The draft of Worcester's Open Space Plan was presented to the county Open Space Board on March 28 and was praised as one of the best plans the Board has seen. After the county's comments have been received by the township, the plan will be released to the public for a 45-day comment period, during which a public hearing will be held to present the plan to residents and solicit comments.

Web-based survey. Discussion of this item was tabled to the May meeting.

Other. We discussed possible uses of our funds to further our goals of public education on open space issues. Possible purchases include a powerpoint projector and screen. No decision was reached. Several people wanted to know how we can contribute to efforts to preserve open space in Worcester. Discussion was held on the effectiveness of relatively small levels of funding. We also discussed contributing to a stormwater management installation at the township building or Heebner Park which would demonstrate best management practices that a homeowner could implement.

**Administrative Assistant's Report.**

**New Business**

1. Susan will work with Bill Fox on preparing a version of the White Paper on Open Space Preservation which can be posted on the website and possibly mailed to landowners to get them thinking about the options that are available.
2. Susan was asked to do further research on general liability and directors' and officers' insurance coverage.

**FOW 2006 meeting dates and upcoming events:**

Meetings –Wednesday, May 10. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at Bean Road Nursery (corner of Bean & Whitehall Rds.)

Horse Show – Saturday, June 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Heyser Field in Fairview Village

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Caughlan