

Friends of Worcester meeting minutes Meeting date: May 10, 2006

Present: Marie Amato, Dave Cardy, Kelbin Carolina, Mark Constable, Joe Constable, Kim David, Bill Fox, Rob Hayes, Ken Lord, Barb McMonagle, Doug Rotondo, Jeannie Steigerwalt, Susan Caughlan

The April meeting minutes were approved as written and will be posted at friendsofworcester.org.

Presentation by Friends of Lower Providence. Kelbin Carolina, a Board member of Friends of Lower Providence, presented a proposal for FOW to partner with FLP on their annual golf outing fundraiser, to be held Saturday, Oct 14, at the Shannondell golf club. The Board will consider the details and respond to FLP promptly.

President's Report. Kim David reported on a wonderful day at the Worcester Historical Society's Annual Antique/Flea Market on May 6. FOW had an information table at the event.

Contribution and Support. Barb McMonagle reported that we are still receiving a few contributions from the annual fund-raising letter.

Fundraising/Hospitality. Plans for the Food Tent at the upcoming Horse Show were discussed.

Township Reports.

Board of Supervisors. The Board has formed the North Penn Local Redevelopment Authority to oversee planning efforts for the US Army Reserve Center on Berks Road, which is being closed. The Ford-Visteon plant on Morris Road is being sold. The Berwyn Group approached the Board about reuse plans because there are conditions attached to the use of the site.

Planning Commission. The Planning Commission met to schedule work session meetings, which will take place the second Thursday evening of the month.

Zoning Hearing Board. The ZHB heard a variance request by Gambone for a larger sign on the Kumpf-Bell development. The BOS is sending the solicitor to oppose this request. The ZHB granted a variance to Sparango Development Co for two flag lots along Bethel Road, even though neighbors brought a petition against the variance.

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

Newsletter. The newsletter will be printed by Friday and a label party is scheduled for Saturday afternoon. A discussion was held concerning a policy for accepting ads. Newsletter ads will now be sent to the FOW Board of Officers for approval before being accepted.

Outreach. Work on the joint FOW/FLP stormwater program to be held Saturday, Sept 30, is ongoing.

Website Development. We discussed having counters on individual pages to see which ones are being used the most.

Current issues.

Open Space Initiatives. The county Farm Board should begin making offers early this summer. Several Worcester farms are ranked in the top 10 county-wide. It is possible that the rules will change to include farms 35 acres and larger, instead of 50 acres and larger. This could allow additional Worcester farms to qualify.

Web-based survey. A discussion was held on where to publish the survey, and whether to tie it to a newsletter article. It was decided to discuss this again before the next newsletter is published.

White Paper on Open Space Preservation Options. This was tabled to the next meeting.

Historic Structures Preservation Committee. The committee has invited a representative of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to present a program on options for historic preservation.

Administrative Assistant's Report. In April, the Administrative Assistant researched insurance issues, worked on the Methacton Oak note cards, prepared newsletter ads, updated the website, worked on the stormwater presentation, and drafted a letter to the editor of the Times Herald.

New Business

1. Flyers advertising the various events on Worcester Day will be distributed at the polls on Election Day. They will also be posted at both farms, the township building, and the Worcester post office.
2. We discussed how to display and sell the Methacton Oak note cards at the Horse Show.

FOW 2006 meeting dates and upcoming events:

Meetings – Wednesday, September 13
 Wednesday, October 11
 Wednesday, November 8

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at Bean Road Nursery (corner of Bean & Whitehall Rds.)

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Caughlan