

## **Friends of Worcester meeting minutes      Meeting date: April 9, 2008**

**Review of Minutes.** The minutes of the March 2008 meeting were approved with one addition and will be posted on the website.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Wini Hayes reported that the Arbor Day program at Worcester Elementary School is in good shape. It was noted that FOW's annual filing with the Bureau of Charitable Organizations should accurately reflect the amount of the budget that is spent on programs, administrative, and fundraising activities. Susan and Barb will work on this.

**President's Report.** President Kim David reported that he and Vice President Rob Hayes met with Meadowood Director Paul Nordeman, who expressed Meadowood's interest in working with FOW. It was noted that we will be partnering with Meadowood on the Arbor Day program at the elementary school later this month. We discussed holding the October FOW meeting at Meadowood to accommodate residents who might not be able to travel to meetings. Kim will propose this meeting date to Paul.

**Contributors/Supporters.** Secretary Barb McMonagle reported 77 new contributors since the March meeting, representing a 22% increase in our contribution base.

**Fundraising/Hospitality.** We discussed whether to sell cloth shopping bags with the FOW logo. Maeve Vogan offered to contact Cedars Advertising for prices.

### **Township Reports.**

**Board of Supervisors.** At the March 19 meeting, the BOS announced its decision to deny the conditional use application for land development of the Worcester Golf Course, citing the applicant's noncompliance with the township's Sewage Facilities Plan and the requirements of the RPD ordinance.

At the April 7 meeting, the board passed a resolution rescinding their earlier resolution to support the donation of a conservation easement by resident Cindy Haines, based on the fact that a lawsuit has been filed by resident Mary Grace Sparango challenging the validity of the easement.

Sal Paone, developer of The Preserve at Worcester (North Wales Rd), announced his intention to propose a package plant sewage treatment system for this development.

The township manager announced that Worcester Clean-Up Day was scheduled for April 19 and that any community organization could field a team to clean up a section of roadway. Jen Strouse volunteered to organize a FOW team to clean up Skippack Pike between North Wales and Whitehall Rds. We discussed whether to order T-shirts with the FOW logo. Maeve Vogan volunteered to research prices.

**Planning Commission.** The Planning Commission is still working on the Comprehensive Plan. It was decided to encourage the PC to move forward on the historic preservation ordinance as soon as possible.

**Zoning Hearing Board.** No report for this month. Rick DeLello volunteered to attend ZHB meetings as needed.

**Joint Meeting.** The next Joint Meeting of the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission is scheduled for Monday, June 2, at 9:30 a.m. in Community Hall, Fairview Village.

**Newsletter.** The newsletter was mailed on April 7 after a well-attended label party on April 5 – thank you to everyone who helped on Saturday morning. We discussed adopting a policy of limiting advertising space to 1-1/2 pages. This will give the advertising team concrete guidelines when selling ads and will allow the editorial committee to plan the layout of articles.

**Outreach.** The Outreach Committee will partner with Meadowood residents to present an Arbor Day program at Worcester Elementary School on April 25. It was suggested that the map of ancient trees be posted on our website.

We discussed possible outreach programs to individual neighborhoods. An issue of interest to neighborhood residents might be trails to connect the developments.

**Website.** Updates on the PECO, turnpike expansion, and land development projects continue to be posted as they are received.

### **Current Issues.**

Worcester Golf Course – See the report under Township Meetings -- Board of Supervisors.

3206 Skippack Pike – Representatives of FOW attended a meeting of neighborhood residents and the Smiths. The Smiths presented their proposal for the property to become the new location of the Center for Loss and Bereavement. Residents aired their concerns about the proposed use variance. No resolution was reached.

Haines Easement Donation – See the report under Township Meetings – Board of Supervisors.

Fairview Village -- Susan reported on a meeting with representatives of Arcadia Land Development Company. They invited FOW to visit their Woodmont project in Lower Moreland Township.

Susan has prepared a feasibility study concerning municipal land trusts for the board's consideration.

### **New Business**

Horse Show -- The Horse Show is June 7, and FOW will have our food tent as usual. Barb McMonagle will be stepping down as chair and asked for a volunteer to take over the position next year. Jennifer Strouse volunteered to work with Barb this year to learn the job.

Worcester Day -- FOW, Meadowood, Worcester Elementary School, and WHS are all interested in participating in a celebration of Worcester's 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Worcester Day. FOW will send a letter to the Board of Supervisors encouraging them to make Worcester Day a special event for the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Election Day – Kim and Susan will put together an informational flyer on FOW, highlighting our mission to preserve open space and control taxes. We discussed who would be available to hand them out at the polls.

Open Space Coordinator – Possible replacements for the position of Open Space Coordinator were discussed.

**FOW 2008 meetings:** Wednesdays –May 14, September 10, October 8 (possibly to be held at Meadowood – check website in the fall), November 12 -- Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at Bean Road Nursery (corner of Bean & Whitehall Rds.)

Respectfully submitted, Susan Caughlan