

Friends of Worcester meeting minutes Meeting date: May 14

Review of Minutes. The minutes of the April meeting were approved and will be posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report. No report.

President's Report. President Kim David noted that FOW's presence at the polls for the April primary seemed to be well received. We did not achieve complete coverage at all polls, and Kim noted that more visibility would be desirable if we had the volunteers.

Contributors/Supporters. A map showing the approximate distribution of contributions since January was circulated. .

Fundraising/Hospitality. We discussed whether to try a small order of T-shirts to sell at the Horse Show and decided to proceed. Maeve Vogan will coordinate.

Township Reports.

Board of Supervisors. At the April 16 meeting, the BOS held two "town meeting" type discussions on issues that have recently come under discussion at public meetings – the closed bridge on Kriebel Mill Rd and stadium lights at Methacton High School.

- The township engineer presented the results of a study on the engineering, safety issues, and cost required to reopen the bridge. Many residents spoke in opposition to the reopening. The board did not make any decision.
- Many residents spoke both for and against the issue of stadium lights at the high school. Presently such lights are not permitted under Worcester's ordinances. The school board is expected to take up this issue in the near future. The board did not make any decision on the issue.

Final approval was granted for the Stony Creek Village land development plan at the corner of Township Line and North Wales Rds.

The board announced its intention to conduct warrant studies of the intersections at Hollow Rd and Skippack Pike, and Green Hill and Stump Hall Roads, to look at whether traffic lights are needed at either intersection. Barb McMonagle noted that neither intersection is included in the township's Act 209 Transportation Impact Study, which looked at intersections throughout the township which might require traffic improvements.

Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has submitted the Comprehensive Plan to the Board of Supervisors for their review. A public hearing will be held before the Plan is approved by the township. The PC is now expected to begin work on the historic preservation ordinance.

Zoning Hearing Board. Kim David read Rick DeLello's report on the ZHB's denial of the request for a variance to operate a produce stand at the corner of Germantown Pike and Adair Ave in Fairview Village. The ZHB stated that it would announce the reasons for its denial at its next meeting.

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. Kim David asked when the newsletter committee would start work on the fall issue. The committee will plan to meet in August to discuss the theme and articles for that issue. At the September meeting, the committee will give its report and assign articles to be written.

Outreach. On April 19, FOW fielded a team to participate in Worcester Cleanup Day by cleaning up a stretch of Skippack Pike. As suggested, the map of ancient trees from the booklet has been posted on our website.

On April 25, FOW and Meadowood presented an Arbor Day program at Worcester Elementary School. Committee members presented a very well-received assembly, after which a tree seedling was given to each

student to take home for planting. The seedling was presented in a reusable tote bag, along with a booklet of information and activities related to Arbor Day. A pizza party is planned for the class that plants the most trees. FOW also presented a mature crabapple tree to the school, to be planted in front of the entrance, thanks to the generosity of Cedar Ridge Nursery. A sign will be made to commemorate this gift. The school principal expressed his thanks to FOW for the tree and the successful Arbor Day program. The committee was congratulated on putting together such a multifaceted program, and committee members and volunteers were thanked for their time and effort.

Ideas for a fall outreach effort were discussed, including sponsoring a bench at Heebner Park and hosting neighborhood discussion/information groups. The committee will meet over the summer to discuss this and will report at the September meeting.

Website. Nothing to report.

Current Issues.

3206 Skippack Pike – We discussed whether FOW should play a role in this rezoning request. It was noted that the residents are actively pursuing their opposition to the request and have retained counsel. It was decided that FOW will continue to watch the issue.

Municipal Land Trust – A committee was established to study the idea. Members are Kim David, Wini Hayes, Rob Hayes, Barb McMonagle, and Susan Caughlan.

Horse Show -- Organizational issues were discussed. We will have an Attic Treasures table – anyone is welcome to bring items for sale, with the profits donated to FOW.

New Business

Worcester Day – Susan was asked to reply to the township’s response to FOW’s letter asking the supervisors to include a commemoration of Worcester’s 275th anniversary on Worcester Day (June 7).

FOW 2008 meetings: Wednesdays –September 10, October 8 (possibly to be held at Meadowood – check FOW’s 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