

Friends of Worcester Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, October 14, 2009**

Review of Minutes. The minutes of the September meeting were discussed and approved as written. They will be posted to the website.

President's Report/Current Issues.

Revised Business Meeting Agenda. President Kim David presented a revised agenda format for future meetings. The format will be based on the organizational goals of FOW's newly adopted Five-Year Strategic Plan.

There was discussion regarding the proposed new Open Space Committee, which will include responsibility for land preservation, development of an open space fund, and village planning. The village planning aspect will involve following the Planning Commission's meetings as they work on this topic, and advocating for village-scale development.

The Education and Outreach Committee will include the newsletter, website, and community activities and programs.

The Organization Development Committee will encompass recruiting of new members, supporting existing members' volunteer efforts, community partnerships, and fundraising (including the Horse Show and merchandise sales). It was suggested that this committee be renamed the Organizational Advancement and Growth Committee.

A box in the newsletter will recruit for interested members for these committees.

It was noted that there is no contact information on the agenda and minutes that are mailed to members in advance of each meeting. This information will be added to the agenda and minutes.

New Business.

Environmental Advisory Council. – Susan Caughlan summarized the legal requirements and possible duties of an Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, much like the Planning Commission, but specific to environmental issues. These duties can include community outreach and education, project implementation, and plan review concerning such issues as stormwater, landscaping, and energy-efficient lighting. More information on EACs can be found on the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's EAC Network webpage, <http://www.eacnetwork.org/>. It was agreed that FOW will send a letter to the Supervisors recommending that the board form an EAC for Worcester Township.

Newsletter. The newsletter will be back from the printer by the 23rd. A label party will be held Saturday, October 24, at 9 a.m. at Bean Road Nursery. A discussion on finalizing the newsletter ads was held.

Land Preservation Committee. Another volunteer is being sought to serve on the Land Preservation Committee. Training will be provided.

Website. A volunteer is needed to work with the Education & Outreach Committee on content and postings for the website.

Education & Outreach Committee. -- Committee Chair Jen Strouse reported that the committee met to develop activities. A fundraiser could be held in February, and we will partner with Meadowood to present an Arbor Day program in April. A road cleanup activity will be held in November.

Township Reports.

Board of Supervisors The Board of Supervisors approved a township contribution to help fund the preservation of the Graham farm on Valley Forge Road through the state/county Farmland Preservation Program. The state and county will be paying for approximately 85% of this project.

Planning Commission The Planning Commission is continuing its discussion of village planning.

Zoning Hearing Board No report.

Joint Meeting. The next Joint Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7.

Contributors/Supporters. No report.

Administrative Assistant's Report. The newsletter was expedited this month.

FOW 2009 - 2010 meetings and events:

We discussed whether to hold the November meeting at Meadowood. It was noted that this meeting at Solaris brought four residents who have not come to meetings before, so it is a good location. We can also hold meetings in Community Hall, to draw more Fairview Village residents. For the November meeting, we discussed inviting a representative from a land trust to come to the meeting to brainstorm possible partnerships with us. Susan will contact The Conservancy of Montgomery County to ask whether their director can join us in November. We will try to hold the meeting location at either Community Hall or Meadowood.

- *Wednesday, November 11, Meadowood Board Room (in the Schultz Community Center), 3205 Skippack Pike*
- *Wednesday, January 13, location to be announced*
- *Wednesday, February 10, location to be announced*
- *Wednesday, March 10, location to be announced*

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

- Holiday Potluck -- Monday, December 28, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the home of Rob and Wini Hayes, RSVP to 610-584-0371 or info@friendsofworchester.org

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Caughlan