

Friends of the Milford Upper Charles Trail
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
August 7, 2007

Call to Order

Tony Niro called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM. 11 members and 5 visitors were present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the 6/4/2007 meeting.

Guest Speaker

Naman Shah, Eagle Scout candidate from Troop 18, gave an update on his project to build and place bat boxes and tree sparrow boxes along the trail. The bat boxes will be installed on trees. The sparrow boxes will be placed on poles in 10 pairs. The 2 boxes in a pair will be about 20 yards apart, and the pairs will be about 100 yards apart. There was some discussion about obtaining the use of a bucket truck. Tony will call Mike Bresciani. A ladder may have to do if services of a bucket truck cannot be obtained. Naman is looking to raise \$800 for the project. The Friends may contribute some portion of this, perhaps by matching a percentage of the funds raised elsewhere. Naman was going to collect cans/bottles with deposits as one source. It was suggested that the Friends bring cans/bottles to the next meeting to give to Naman.

Officer Reports

- President – Pat Rosenthal: absent
- Vice President – Tony Niro
 - Chris Chamberlain, Eagle Scout candidate, is working on the kiosk sign and is ready to assemble on site at Louisa Lake.
 - Friends website:
 - Margaret will get a hit count for the website.
 - She is working with UpperCharles.Org, the umbrella organization.
 - It was agreed that we will let the 2 old domain names expire..
 - It was agreed that a monthly deadline to publish anything new on the site is not necessary. Margaret will publish items within a few days after receiving them.
 - Motion was made and unanimously carried that a \$100 dollar donation will permit a person or company to have a business-card size ad on the website for 12-months. This does not entitle the payer to membership, and conversely, a payment for a \$100 membership does not entitle the new member to an ad.
- Secretary – Tom Myatt
 - Trail membership is at 79. A detailed Secretary's report will be issued at the September meeting.
 - Officer elections will be held at the regular September meeting. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary positions are up for election. Notification was included in the email invitation to the August meeting. Tom will also send another email with notification and job descriptions, and Margaret will post the same on the website.
- Treasurer – Dave Cassinelli
 - Dave reports that the Friends finances are in excellent shape. See detailed Treasurer's report at end of these minutes.
 - In addition to funds in the bank account, we will also get about \$2,000 from the Town in reimbursement for the tents rented for the Grand Opening. Furthermore, we can also access \$2,000 from the Parks Department – Dave will work with them on the procedure for this.
 - Dave received correspondence from IRS that we must complete a form that certifies the Friends have received gross receipts over \$25,000 in a fiscal year.

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Committee Reports

- Trail Committee Report – Reno DeLuzio
 - Phase 1:
 - Mass Highway and the contractor did a walk through to see if their obligations were complete. There is still a punch list of about 10 items.
 - Phase 2
 - Mass Highway is ready to schedule a public hearing on Phase 2 around September 19th. The meeting will be held in Milford, probably in the upper Town Hall. It is desirable to have lots of people in favor of the Trail attend the meeting. Reno will let us know when the date is set.
 - There are questions about the four road crossings by the Trail in Phase 2. The Milford plan is to have a flash alert system where amber light flashes at cars and a red light flashes at people on the Trail. Mass Highway asked for counts of people on the trail for making the decisions about the crossing design for Phase 2. Rules say that the traffic must be at least 100 people per hour for 4 hours to have a full signal that someone presses. A regional planning agency is going to help organize the counts for free, but we need volunteer counters on a selected Saturday from 7 AM to 6 PM to staff about half dozen stations. It was decided that we must pick the specific date in order to have a better chance at lining up the quantity of volunteers required. It was also agreed that we have a better chance if the Saturday date is after Labor Day due to summer vacations and weekends away from Milford.
 - One other issue is the two Charles River crossings that each require a bridge that can handle emergency vehicles. We don't know if Mass Highway will accept the recommendations by the engineers or will require full-blown bridge analysis.

- Special Events Committee – Pat Rosenthal: absent
 - Dave suggested that we give a plaque with a trail picture on it to the large donors that they can hang in their office foyer. Margaret will do some research for the September meeting. A Thank You letter will go with the plaque.

- Fund Raising Committee – Barbara Bradbury and Tony Niro
 - A motion was made and unanimously carried to purchase up to seven benches from Swensons Granite for \$1,100 each, providing a donation of \$1000 is received for each bench and its installation before a commitment is made, with the exception of 1 bench for which a donation of only \$500 is required. [07-03]
 - Received a \$1,000 check from Karl Bright for a bench.
 - Received a \$1,000 check from Barker Steel for a bench.
 - Received a \$1,000 pledge from the Royal Buddha for a bench.
 - Midtown an amount that includes a \$1,000 for a bench.
 - Kevin Mehan and New England Mountain Bike may also buy benches.

- Dog Education Committee – Nancy Mullins: absent

- Safety Committee – chair vacant

- Publicity Committee – Nancy Wojick
 - Nancy received a call today from WMRC – they are looking for their blue extension cord left behind at the Grand Opening. Dave will give name of person who has it to Nancy who will follow up.
 - The Downtown Partnership called Margaret to say festival is scheduled for 7/15. We are tentatively scheduled for a table. There was some discussion without conclusion on whether it is worthwhile to staff a table at the event. No new memberships resulted from a table last year, but it does provide some exposure for the Friends.

- Maintenance Committee – chair vacant
 - Important that we fill this position soon.

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- Environmental Education Committee – Linda Konvalinka: absent

Old Business

- See motions made during officer and committee reports above.

New Business

- See motions made during officer and committee reports above.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 4th at the Senior Center.

Adjournment

Motion was made and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 PM.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Income

Previous Year Carry Forward	\$	1,889.96
Membership Dues:	\$	3,605.00
Contributions:	\$	2,650.64
Midtown grant Fund at Parks Dept.	\$	-
Advertisement	\$	-
Interest	\$	5.36
Paypal deposits	\$	160.50
Fund Raising	\$	9,746.00

Total Income \$ 18,057.46

Expenses

Stamps	\$	94.31
Pay Pal Fees	\$	7.08
U.S. Treasury	\$	150.00
Ridgewood Printing	\$	762.00
Tom Frost	\$	20.00
Insurance - Directors	\$	804.00
Liability Ins GO Event	\$	364.00
The Party Rental Center	\$	1,963.50
Bouse House Enterprises	\$	400.00
WMRC	\$	100.00
BVT Printing	\$	124.38
New England Golf Cars	\$	386.50
Boston Party Makers	\$	450.00
Magic World	\$	175.00
Whitinsville Monumental Works	\$	300.00
Tony Niro Misc GO Expenses	\$	138.25
Swenson Granite	\$	2,500.00
Doggie Stations	\$	1,119.00

Total \$ 9,858.02

Remainder \$ 8,199.44

Pending:	Town of Milford	\$	1,963.50
	Parks Department/Midtown	\$	2,000.00

\$ 12,162.94