

Lake Park Friends Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2008
7PM – Warming House

Board Members Absent – Karen Percy Fox

1. Meeting called to order at 7:10PM by Sarah Slaughter. Meetings going forward will commence at 7PM.

2. BG Hook motioned to approve the February minutes, seconded by Mary Ritchie and approved by the board unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report – Oliver Plunkett suggested changing the fiscal year-end to September and shortening the budget year this year. It would require a bylaw amendment to do so and will be presented at the next meeting. The Finance Committee also wants to change the accounting method from cash basis to accrual because as you apply for larger grants, the larger funding organizations often require accrual basis accounting.

Oliver Plunkett motioned to change the method of accounting from cash basis to accrual. Seconded by Sarah Slaughter. Measure passes.

Oliver Plunkett will notify the board in writing one week ahead of the next meeting to propose changing the end of the fiscal year to September 30. The proposed bylaw amendment will be voted on at the next meeting.

Going forward Oliver Plunkett suggests that LPF hire an outside accountant to handle the day to day bookkeeping and allow the Treasurer to act more strategically in that board role. It would also make sense for LPF to purchase its own copy of Quick Books.

4. County/Government Update – Gerry Broderick was unable to attend, but there was discussion about several items. There were some issues about the ice rink in terms of how things were handled. LPF paid for the rink, but the level of responsiveness for maintenance of the rink was challenging due to a lack of resources for help. Chuck Ward has committed that we will not pay any more than \$7500 this year, which was the same amount as last year. The County would like to see this rink continue next year and would like to talk with us about a permanent solution for the ice rink for materials and financial support.

After reviewing documents from the County in regard to the Wahl Avenue project, Dave O'Brien followed up with Chuck Ward and received a very fast response. Gerry Broderick followed up with Sue Black and removed the schedule of payments to the County for oversight of the project.

A new contract has been sent, and before it is signed and sent back to the County, \$125,000 will need to be in the bank. Donna Smith said that funds are currently being transferred into the account.

5. Old Business –

Wolcott Statue Dedication/Soiree will be held April 21. Electricians and landscape architect are on hand to finish the work. The paperwork is being processed by the County to go to the contractors.

Bench Project – The cost from Roland Daneau is \$2145, but there was still a question about what the ongoing administrative cost of each bench is. The County would not provide funding going forward for maintenance or replacement. The benches are sturdy and have held up well, but when they do deteriorate, there is a risk that the County may eliminate the benches in the future, given that they were not part of the original funding.

Roland Daneau and Dennis Buettner have been asked to identify the locations for the next eight benches. It might be possible to trim the trees discreetly to open up some of the vistas with the 12 new arborists who have been hired by the County. Virginia Schwartz will help add to the list of approved poetry passages for the benches.

Steve Morse motioned that the price of the benches be \$3000. Oliver Plunkett amended the motion to \$3200. Motion carried.

Playground Update – The County is currently reviewing each playground in order of need to provide updates.

Park Entrance planting will be planted by the County this spring and would like LPF to try to get volunteers to help weed it. In the future we can approach Bartolotta's to underwrite the planting or develop other ways.

The County has not assigned a liaison to help with the Waterfall Ravine, but the soonest any work could begin in this fall.

Weed Out will occur on Earth Day and then weekends through the end of May. Someone from the committee will be here to help organize volunteers. April 19 is a Weed Out and Clean Out. Hours are 9-12. Celebration to follow the April 19 clean up.

6. New Business

LPF Organizational Chart – Donna Smith revised the organizational chart by functional areas, grouping committees under the appropriate umbrellas. The board will review this grouping to determine which members fit in the various areas. Come prepared at the next meeting to put your name in some of the boxes.

Marcia Coles Award – The first Marcia Coles Conservator of the Year award will be given out at the Annual Meeting and will be hung in the Warming House. Anne Booth has asked the board for \$200 for a tree. Mary Ritchie moved that the board approve funds for the plaque, tree, and gift for the recipient to take home. Sarah Slaughter seconded. Motion passed.

Membership Renewal Form – Anne Booth suggested sending out the upcoming renewals using the updated levels to see what the response is before proposing amending the bylaws to reflect the new names. Sally Merrell suggested amending the bylaws to allow updated names for the membership levels.

Annual Meeting – Moving the meeting to Monday, May 19 after work in the Community Room. Virginia Schwartz will chair the event.

Ann Wollmer's Hours – Anne Booth motioned to increase Ann's hours from 10-15 hours. Steve Morse seconded and the motion passed.

Community Room Improvements – Dave O’Brien continues to work with Chuck Ward on the improvements in the room.

July 4th Committee – Oliver Plunkett will work on the horse and buggy and serves on the 4th of July Committee.

Dennis Buettner moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 and it was seconded by Oliver Plunkett, and the motion passed.