

Fair Hill Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 19, 1998

Attendees: J.Campbell, K.Phillips, L.Klevans, J.Hendricks, R.Willmann, W.Lucas, H.Hannum, J.Newman, R.Carroll, T.Bartow, K.Aspinwall, W.Ide, D.Clower

Guest: Ed Walls

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Jim Campbell.

Order of Business:

1. Keith Phillips was nominated for Secretary and Larry Klevans was nominated for Treasurer. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The officers for the board stand as follows: President Jim Campbell, Vice president Jerry Hendricks, Treasurer Larry Klevans, Secretary Keith Phillips.
2. Discussion was held with Ed Walls on his vision of Fair Hill and how it fit with our vision and existence. There was concern that Ed might not see the Nature Center in his vision. Ed reiterated several times that he sees no conflict between the Park and the Nature Center. To the contrary, he thinks that they do and should in the future compliment each other. The fact that there was a naturalist on staff at the Park should not alarm us. His management expects that all Parks have a naturalist. Ed says that Fair Hill must comply with that directive. It was his opinion that the naturalist was a resource to Fair Hill Nature Center. When organizations call in for programs on the environment, Ed always sends them to the Nature center. There was concern that we must charge for our programs to remain in existence but the naturalist has given free programs might erode our presence in the community. Ed said that some organizations just don't have any money for programs and when that occurs he feels obliged to provide them when possible. Ed mentioned that he might be losing his naturalist to a promotion in the future. There was some discussion on whether the Nature Center could fill this role for the Park.
3. Jerry Hendricks gave a Grants committee report. So far they have been unable to obtain any grants. Jerry proposed that we offer long distance phone service to our members through the "Affinity Group". We would offer our members one of three plans where they would call a 10-10-xxx number to dial long distance, similar to 10-10-321, along with a special code denoting us the first time. The we would receive 10% of the revenue from the calls on a monthly basis. Jerry made the motion that we offer all three plans to our members. Second was made. Motion was not passed. Another motion was made that we

offer the Benefactor and Donator plans. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

4. Jerry brought up employing Linda Walls as a consultant for obtaining grants. She had submitted a proposal to us. At the time she had proposed that we pay her an up front fee that was not refundable for her to submit grant proposals to prospects on our behalf. At the time it was felt that we could not afford her services and that we would try on our own. Jerry felt in light of our success record that we might want to reconsider her proposal. Karen took the action to contact Linda and verify her proposal and report back to us next month.
5. Holly gave a school report. Three of the five walkie-talkies are here. Summer camp earned a total revenue of \$718.00. They had received \$150.00 in scholarships from the Rising Sun County Time Garden Club. A letter was developed to send to all Cecil County elementary teachers on who applied for grants. Middle school attendance is to be evaluated. They are developing a wetlands program for middle school. Holly expressed concern about not having a central figure from the Cecil County Schools to go to any more. This makes it very hard for any planning to take place.
6. Karen proposed several ideas for the Board to mull over for discussion at the September meeting. a) she feels like she is not accomplishing enough and thinks she could be more productive if her duties were more defined and prioritized. See attachment I. b) she has written down some additional concerns and listed them in attachment II. c) She has become very frustrated over our conflicting mission between the schools and the Fair Hill Park. Our relationship with the schools has changed since our founding. We are no longer a requirement for the students. Bill Ide thinks we might have to change our philosophy/approach to ward the schools. We are now competing with other activities. d) Discussion on funding the Outreach program was held. Dr. Wheeler has changed his opinion on funding to now allowing the principles to pay but not the students. e) Karen asked that a Finance Committee meeting be held. A meeting was scheduled for Monday at 9:00AM at the Nature Center. f) We received our five thousand dollar grant from the Waterfowl Foundation to support the third grade program.
7. Jerry reported that the next highway clean up needs to be scheduled. We need to hold four of these clean ups per year. September 19th at 8:00AM was set. Karen will see that it is put in the next News letter.
8. Jerry proposed on behalf of the membership committee that we host a weekend sleepover type of event this year before cold weather sets in. Some sites to consider are Bowers Conference Center in Elkneck State Park or the Boy Scouts Camp Rodney. Discussion was held on hosting it at the Nature Center. It was thought to start it on a Friday evening and over to Saturday morning

would be an appropriate time period to start. A motion was made to host a sleep over at the nature center on a Friday night. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed. The membership committee will meet August 24th at 11:00AM to plan this event.

Next meeting to be held September 19th at 7:00PM at the Nature Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 PM by Jim Campbell.