

FVNCA Meeting Minutes 09-12-02

1. **Meeting called to order at Betsy Ross House, at 6:30 p.m.** Present: President Aileen Martello, Secretary Sara Walbridge, Treasurer Carol Darling Campbell, David Swander Jacobs, Judy Lalier, Betsy Morrison, Cora Simpson and Barbara Davis.
2. **Secretary's Report.** The minutes of the June meeting and the August newsletter were approved as circulated. Aileen noted that approval was delayed because there was no meeting scheduled for July, and without a quorum present in August, that meeting turned into a brief discussion of plans for the Spring Point Festival.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Carol Darling Campbell read her report: As of 9/12/02, the checking account balance is **\$531.47** and the savings account balance is **\$997.72** Of this amount, \$500 remains allocated for the Old Joe's Pond project, if necessary.

Carol pointed out that FVNCA must sell 40 more T-shirts before the association breaks even, and that the margin of profit was very small from the sale of soda, water and T-shirts at the Spring Point Festival. A discussion followed about the changes in the Festival over the years and whether or not it was still a good venue for raising money for FVNCA. Carol suggested that we have a year to think of ways to raise money and improve the Festival.

4. **Unfinished Business.....Action taken**
 - A. Nomination of officers.

Nominations are still needed for Vice President and Secretary. Current Vice President Larry Albert has agreed to run for President, but if he wins the District 2 seat on City Council, he will not be able to be an officer of FVNCA. Carol Darling Campbell has agreed to continue her excellent work as Treasurer. Neither Aileen Martello nor Sara Walbridge chooses to run for office this year.

Aileen noted that the effectiveness of the organization is jeopardized by poor attendance at meetings. There are ± 30 paid members of FVNCA, but unless there is a crisis, very few come to meetings. After lengthy discussion, it was moved and seconded that a proposed by-law change be presented at the October meeting. **The proposed change is that business meetings be held four times a year, plus an annual meeting in September. If issues arise, the president can convene additional special meetings.** The motion was approved.

Using the method that worked well last year, ballots will be distributed to all paid members of the association. The completed ballots can either be mailed in or left in a specially marked container at Betsy Morrison's house, 24 Oak Street. Betsy and Sara Walbridge will serve as the ballot processing team.

- B. Master Plan Update. Jan Grieco and Aileen presented the master plan at a City Council Workshop in August. In spite of the thoroughness of the presentation, the Councilors still questioned how our master plan would fit into the overall neighborhoods' plan. Jan and Aileen will resume their efforts with the Council after the election. The Ferry Village Master Plan is the result of more than a year's hard work by the committee, and it represents the wishes of the entire neighborhood. Everyone in Ferry Village is urged to attend the City Council meetings and lend their support.
- C. FVNCA Sign. Village resident Angela Crabtree has removed the sign and is in the process of restoring it. She is a professional artist who is donating her time and talent to the project, and she involved the larger community by getting paint donated by Maine Paint Service. Sara will get the details of the donation from Angela and write them a thank you note from FVNCA.
- D. Coastal Clean-Up. September 28, 9-12. FVNCA will clean up Davidson's Beach (across from Oak Street). Members are encouraged to wear their T-shirts and support the effort to clean up the coastline. Gloves and bags will be provided.

5. New Business.....Discussion/Action

- A. Cora Simpson brought up the question of ownership of the strip of land between the paved driveway of Saltwater Grille and the Drivas' shipyard property. Sara will research the answer.
- B. Breakwater resident Kay Loring asked about the status of the proposed marina at the shipyard. Sara reported that as of now, no applications for a marina have been filed with the Planning Dept., although Mr. Drivas has cleared land across the street from the shipyard. A year ago, this site was being considered for development as an apartment complex, but all applications for the apartment complex have expired. Before construction of any kind can take place on that property, new applications would have to be filed and acted on. Sara will continue to monitor the

situation, and will request that the City inspect the shipyard buildings for potential fire hazards.

- C. South Portland Tax Assembly, September 23, 7:00 p.m., South Portland High School Auditorium. Sponsored by a consortium of neighborhood associations, the assembly is a chance for all residents of South Portland to tell their stories to legislative and gubernatorial candidates. Written and/or verbal comments will be welcome.
 - D. South Portland Land Trust Annual Meeting, October 24, Portland Harbor Museum, time to be announced.
 - E. Gail Cunningham is the new contact at the Betsy Ross House. Rick, the night security guard, requests that we use the far parking lot for our meetings, as occupancy at Betsy Ross is near capacity and the spaces closest to the building are for staff, residents, and their guests.
 - F. David Swander Jacobs, 767-5806, asked that residents contact him with comments and concerns about neighborhood matters. He suggested that we call our city councilors to remind them that we are interested in keeping alive the bond issue for open space. David is running for City Council from District 1.
6. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Everyone thanked Aileen for her extremely conscientious, capable leadership and the tremendous amount of work she did as president of FVNCA.