

# Ferry Village Neighborhood Conservation Association (FVNCA)

## September 14, 2006

### Minutes

20 Ferry Village people and 2 guests were present for this meeting.

Introductions were made.

General discussion regarding a celebration for Aileen Martello was held with requests for donations to be used to purchase gift certificates at both Saltwater Grille and Linens & Things as an expression for her vast contributions over the years to FVNCA

#### 1. **Treasurer's report:**

Official figures were not available for this meeting although funds remained generally the same from the 6/8/06 meeting. Official figures will be made available in January after a new treasurer has reviewed the accounts. A reminder that dues are due in October of each year and must be paid in order to be a voting member. They are \$5.00 per family.

#### 2. **Election Process:**

The By-Laws were reviewed to outline the election process. Elaine Shank's house was voted as the designated place to return ballots and she would be responsible for tallying the votes.

#### 3. **PROP update:**

Peter Stuckey explained the history, service delivery area and services provided through PROP. A booklet was distributed that describes the services that are provided through PROP to all ages. Additionally, PROP will be assisting in the provision of childcare services for those who have been displaced due to the recent closure of the YWCA in Portland. Peter described a new program that provides companionship to seniors. The lease situation with the city of South Portland was again reviewed. The city of South Portland and PROP have negotiated a two year lease and then the arrangement will be up for negotiation. Peter is interested in seeking input regarding the optimal use of the PROP building in Ferry Village and how best to become a "clearinghouse of non-profits". Peter can be reached at 874-1140 ext 362.

#### 4. **Other Updates:**

- Zoning regulations input ~ An ad-hoc committee was formed to submit comment to the city regarding its work on the zoning regulations changes. It was decided that the committee would provide general recommendations to zoning changes on behalf of FVNCA rather than micro analysis of the zoning regulations.
- Friends of Ferry Village Fund (Beulah Swiger Memorial). A donation was accepted with gratitude from Cheryl Beeman. The ad hoc committee that was formed needs to meet before the next meeting to develop guidelines for distribution of funds (refer to 6/8/06 minutes)
- Old Joe's Pond Update ~ Ralph Sama presented his tentative plans for the remaining development of the Old Joe's Pond area that will include an additional 6-10 more houses disbursed on Harriet, Oak, North Marriner and Roosevelt Street, pending approval from the Army Corps of Engineers and DEP. Ralph stated that the donations of the Old Joe's Pond area and remaining property will be made in 2007. Grave concern was expressed to Ralph regarding the magnitude of the development of the property as well as the length of time that it has taken to complete the project.
- Ferry Village Sign (on Pine Street). An estimate and rendering from Scarborough Sign was presented. FVNCA member John O'Brien volunteered to discuss with David Jacobs the

possibility of donating his services to redo the sign. Also discussed was the possibility of tying in the updating of the sign with the work being done through the historical society or perhaps to use CDBG grant money to refurbish the sign.

#### **5. Guest Speakers ~ City Councilors Kay Loring and Claude Morgan**

- Councilors Loring and Morgan discussed several items of which the Council is dealing including:

- The enormity of the rezoning initiative (Chapter 27) with a goal of 18 months to complete this process
- The changes that the city and the Council are exploring related to management, structural and organizational
- The focus on improvement to District 5 (Maine Mall area)
- Applying positive change to redefine the Council's role and relationship to its constituency
- Concern was expressed to the Councilors regarding the traffic flow back-ups as a result of increased attendance at SMCC. The Councilors shared some strategies that have been implemented in order to reduce this congestion that include: synchronizing the South Portland bus scheduled with the SMCC bus schedule and the building of the residence hall at SMCC. A suggestion was made to use CIP funds to do an extensive study on the functionality of the road and lights, particularly on Broadway. It was also suggested that the traffic lights on Broadway could be better synchronized for better traffic flow.
- Favorable comments were expressed to the Councilors regarding the newly installed speed table on Pine Street with a request for more to be installed on Mussey Street and/or Sawyer Street.
- It was also suggested that signs indicating the Green Belt be placed near the road crossings of busy street such as Mussey, Pine and Sawyer Street.
- Concern was expressed for the School Street Playground regarding its safety, hygiene and maintenance concerns. FVNCA members feel strongly that the city should keep it maintained and that unsuccessful requests have been made to the Parks and Recreation Dept.

#### **Future Meetings:**

**January 11, 2007** Program Presentation – Kathy DiPhilippo, Local Historian

Other items: SMCC Community Committee update, Ferry Village sign update

**April 12, 2007** – Program Presentation to be determined

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Betsy Morrison