MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PARKS 11/29/11

Members present: Grace Borgfjord, Peggy Warlick, Jeff Parsons, Carol Ladd and Carol VanAntwerp.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Grace Borgfjord at 9:05am.

The minutes of November 15, 2011 were approved as written.

Date of Park Dedication: Due to the delay in asphalting, the new dedication date will be Saturday, May 19, 2012.
Because of the date change, joint plans for activities that day, eg, Arbor Day sale of seedlings and the Oshtemo Library are on hold. Grace plans on talking with Kevin King about the possibility of the library rescheduling to May.

Lucky Dog Media: Members reviewed the email from Carolyn Kennedy and discussed contacting other firms to assess the standard cost for our branding/marketing needs. Carol Ladd suggested contacting college students in Graphic Art programs to develop a plan for us. Peggy Warlick, Jeff Parsons and Grace all volunteered to contact graphic designers in the Kalamazoo area to do some comparison pricing and to gauge their ability to present a finished logo by February 1,2012. The goal of the committee is to select a vendor by January 1, 2012. Jeff is still in contact with web designer Joseph Januszewski; he estimates the cost for a start up web site to be between $300-$1,000. He will report back at the next meeting. It was noted that the Oshtemo Historical Society has its own website which can be found on a link from Oshtemo Township's website.

Grace distributed the current pamphlet that describes the mission and purpose of the Friends of the Parks .

Licensing Requirements of the State of Michigan materials were given to Treasurer, Carol Ladd by Peggy to have in the event of any fund-raising activities in the future. Several ideas were mentioned by Peggy that have been successful for other organizations. For instance, a golf ball drop, or a grocery store shopping activity funded by raffle tickets. Peggy also talked about having people who use the parks to submit photos of themselves or family members actively enjoying the parks, eg, dog walkers, playing ball, etc. to put on our website or publish on a calendar.

Park dedication day was discussed and beside offering food for those who come, Grace suggested a Treasure Hunt might be a fun activity for the children who are there that day.

Members reviewed the mission statement. It was agreed that members would serve a three year term.

A spending policy was agreed on. Any amount over $250 would need FOP board member approval.

Thank yous to donors: it was agreed that once our logo is in place donors would receive an official thank you from FOP.

Arbor Day Activity: Carol Ladd suggested that perhaps the seedling activity initially planned for the Park dedication take place at Flesher Field in April 2012 instead. Peggy will check with her contacts and find out if this will work.

Next meeting is Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 4pm, just prior to our introduction at the Township meeting at 5pm. Then January 10, April 17, July 10, and October 9 2012 at 9:00am.

Respectfully Submitted: Carol VanAntwerp