

# Milling About

News from the Friends of Peirce Mill

Fall 2013



## Report on the Annual Meeting

FOPM's annual meeting was held in the auditorium of the Nature Center, Rock Creek Park, at 2 p.m. on November 2. Present were board members Tom Blackburn (President), Quentin Looney, David Lyman, Philip Gaudette, Tish Kilpatrick, Sheila Ploger, and Program Manager Steve Dryden. Attending as FOPM members were Adam Sieminski, Kurt Luginbyhl (board member nominee), Bob and Diana Day and Art Fort (and guest).

The first order of business was the election of the board of directors. With the addition of 7 proxy votes received from members, the 10% quorum of our 136 members, as required by our by-laws, was met. The 6 board members listed above were re-elected; Kurt Luginbyhl was nominated and elected to one of the two vacant board slots which were created because of the resignations during the year of Ken Faulstich and Richard Abbott. (Both remain active members of FOPM.) The newly constituted board then voted for Quentin Looney as President, Tom Blackburn as Vice President and Sheila Ploger as Secretary/Treasurer. David Lyman continues as Business Manager.

### Report of the President

Tom Blackburn noted his concern about our ability to meet the estimated \$50,000 annual budget for FOPM support of activities such as school visits and that portion of mill maintenance not covered by the NPS, estimated at \$10,000. It appears likely that we can count on the continued support of the Kiplinger Foundation. However, other foundations that have long supported us but are closing down or are no longer involved in historic preservation include the Marpat Foundation and the 1772 Foundation. We will need to identify new funding sources during the coming year (see below). A new fund-raising tool we now have available is the video film *Turning Again at Peirce Mill*, a high quality film produced by the National Park Service that publicizes the restoration of the mill. The Smart Phone Mobile APP, funded by IBM grants, continues to be popular with mill visitors. Another concern expressed by Tom is that a plan made last year to have monthly meetings with the Rock

Creek Park Superintendent has not been fully implemented, making coordination of FOPM activities with park rangers more difficult.

### Report of the Secretary/Treasurer

Sheila Ploger reports that as of this date we have \$20,132 in our money market account and \$32,720 in our checking account, for a total of roughly \$53,000 on hand at this time. Membership remains about the same as last year: 101 households with 136 individual members.

### Business Manager Report

David Lyman reported receipt of grants and donations from October 1, 2012 to October 10, 2013 totaling \$37,000, of which \$10,000 from the Kiplinger Foundation (their tenth grant), \$10,000 from Marpat Foundation (their ninth grant), and \$7,500 from an anonymous foundation (their eighth). As noted above, we cannot expect further grants from Marpat Foundation. David also reported on his, Philip Gaudette's and Sheila Ploger's efforts to revise our bylaws to conform to new guidelines for non-profits recently introduced by the D.C. government.

### Status of fund raising efforts

Steve Dryden plans to explore possible grants from the Philip Graham Fund and the Cafritz Foundation, as well as from the previously mentioned anonymous foundation. Another possibility is Whole Foods, which has a program of donating 5% of daily profits from one location to a local cause. He will also contact Mary Cheh, our DC Council representative and long-time supporter, for possible additional donations from the DC government. Kurt Luginbyhl suggested that FOPM might apply to be included in the Federal employee annual contribution campaign (Charitable Federal Campaign). The program provides for non-profits to speak at agencies on given days.