

**MAFF GENERAL MEETING**  
**June 10, 2006**  
**Minutes**

Called to order 1:30 PM by Phyllis Spy.  
Attendee list on file.

**President's Report** – P. Spy

The Ferret Faire will be MaFF's big event for 2006, scheduled for October 14, 2006. The Faire is more involved than the Halloween Frolic, and volunteers are needed to handle the work. (See the Events section of the minutes for the volunteer assignments).

The recently established MaFF area coordinators are much appreciated! MaFF has been able to hold three events in a single day, which was previously not possible. (Area Coordinator Reports follow later in the minutes)

**VP Report** – L. Andrews

Nothing to report at this time.

**Clerk's Report** – J. Renouf

Change of address and change of officer(s) forms have been filed with the state.

**Treasurer's Report** – B. Harkins

\$103 was collected in today's 50/50 raffle. (B. Harkins won the raffle and donated the winnings back to MaFF.)

A fundraising volunteer is needed.

**MaFF Rescue and Shelter Report** – T. Wallach

The shelter has been quite busy since its start in October 2004. 200 ferrets have been placed in forever homes. 38 are currently in the foster network, 15-16 on wait list.

\$230 currently in the Shelter Cage Drive fund

**Hotline Coordinator Report** – D. Wheeler

The hotline has received only informational calls. All calls are returned.

Need to encourage people who post ferret emergencies on the forums to call the hotline.

If anything relating to a Massachusetts ferret gets posted on the FML, let Diddy know.

**Membership Report** – P. Spy

All membership fees will be collected today or ASAP to bring MaFF membership up-to-date.

Following today's collection, next membership dues will be collected in the month each member joined MaFF.

**Hospitality Report** – R. DiComo

Only sympathy cards have been sent out. A volunteer is needed for adoption cards.

Diddy will send adoption cards with membership and adoption packet.

**Webmaster Report** – M. Rosenstein

No major changes to the site in a while. It's time to think about an overhaul just to keep it fresh.

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**Webmaster Report** (continued)

In May 2006, about 5,000 people looked at the website, reading about 36,000 web pages. The forum has 208 registered members. 5 of the top 10 posters are MaFF officers. There have been 1813 postings made in 515 topics (97 postings in 27 topics in May). There have been 16 orders placed in the online store, for a total of \$468.75.

A reminder for people to submit pictures that they think are suitable to be featured on the home page as we change this monthly

**Area Coordinator North Shore** – K. Mayne

From email: Ipswich now has a cage. Since storage is limited, no more cages can be stored. Trudy is bringing litter boxes, food dishes, and water bottles. Hammocks are still needed for the cage. Need to arrange transportation for the items up to Revere

**Area Coordinator Metro West** – H. Bowser

MaFF has a great relationship with Especially for Pets (Westborough and other stores). Not many ferret people visit the store, but repetition may be the key to attracting more ferret people.

Need to set up education day / relationship with Natick Petco, which sells many ferrets.

**Area Coordinator South Shore** – K. Baker

There are four stores to visit three times a year (7/9 – North Attleboro).

Also in touch with MSPA in Brockton and ARL in Pembroke – both ferret-positive.

**Merchandise Report** – P. Spy

Price marked down on T-shirts. Take them to events.

Phyllis to provide current photos and pricing to Mark (for web) and Bill.

**Audit Committee** – P. Spy

Bill Williamson is moving to Maine. A new chairperson is needed for the audit committee.

Please volunteer or nominate someone for this position.

**Legislation / Legal** – P. Spy

Write your Senators: PETS Act (no pet left behind, disaster planning legislation) passed through House, need Senate support (Kerry / Kennedy). Ferrets have specific needs, more than a dish or water and food; there are medical considerations, etc.

MaFF has adopted a black-footed ferret from Prairie Wildlife Research, Inc in Wyoming.

The National Zoo also has a black-footed ferret adoption / sponsorship program

(<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Support/AdoptSpecies/>).

**Events** – P. Spy

- Save the dates -

Saturday, 8/19 – General Meeting at Diane Wall's

Saturday, 12/9 – General Meeting / Giving Tree

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**Events** (continued)

- MaFF Ferret Faire (10/14) Committee Members -  
Graphics: Mark  
Admissions: Tracy  
Vendors: Diddy  
Games: Alan  
Decoration: Heather  
Food: Donna  
Donations: Diane and Lisa

**Other Events** (check the web site for the most up-to-date info):

- Adoption Days -  
7/9 - PetSmart, N. Attleboro  
8/13 - PetSmart, Braintree  
9/17 - Petco, Taunton  
10/22 - Petco, Plymouth  
11/19 - PetSmart, N. Attleboro  
12/3 - PetSmart, Braintree
- Education Days -  
6/17 - Especially for Pets, Westborough
- Shelter / organization -  
9/9 - Annual Celebration of animals, Mansfield