

Friends of Grant Park/Minutes 10/8/15

Present: Lynn Crawford, Betsy Abert, Keith Schulenburg, Rick Kaiser, Sue Hibben, Jan Marsh, Debby Pizur, Rob Vajagich, Annemarie Adsen, Mike Napier, Pam Uhrig, Don Lawson

Introductions

Security Issues: Information was shared about getting more signs at the entrance of the park and at each of the parking lots. The signs would convey the park hours, fines, and regulations for dog walking and trash, etc. Concerns were brought up about the broken Plexiglas in the kiosk near the tennis courts, the broken fence around the rain garden at the beach, the littering of religious brochures stuffed in the kiosks and how much broken glass is found in the park in the 7 Bridges area, at the beach, and on the trails. Most of it is wine bottles and beer bottles.

Nominations for Chairperson: presently Deb Pizur and Betsy Abert will co-chair.

The treasurer's report was given for our friends group. More information is needed about the amount in the Park People budget for FOGP.

Fundraising goals: We discussed specific projects that would benefit the park. Suggestions include traffic cones (with the FOGP label on them); wood for barricades; signage in the park; a person hired with FOGP funds that would work in Grant Park and help us accomplish our goals; an ice rink near the playground during the winter; landscape with boulders and plants placed near the entrance at Park St. and Lake Dr. to keep vehicles from driving on the grass into the park after hours. Members will report on some of these ideas for the next meeting.

Fundraising Ideas: **Tote bags.** A sample of two tote bags with the Friends of Grant Park logo on them was presented. Depending on the availability, one or both will be ordered in time for the SM Winter Market on Dec. 5. Members agreed that it would be nice to have a brochure designed to promote the park and our mission. It would be available at the market and also placed in the tote bags. **Raffle tickets** to the Bucks game will be sold at the next meeting and at the winter market. Our fundraiser, Pullin O the Green, will be discussed in Nov.

It was reported that there was a dumping in the park of roofing waste. It was at a dark part of the tennis courts lot rain garden, and though it was cleaned up by park personnel within a few days, was a dangerous episode given the amount of nails included in the waste. The response to this report on our Facebook page included a suggestion for better lighting in this lot and a couple other places in the park. This could be a fundraising goal.

Lakeshore clean-up near gun club in Warnimont: The club is moving out of Warnimont Park. Clean-up issues have not been finalized.

Weed-Out: A full page of volunteers worked on Saturday morning to cut down Buckthorn and other invasive plants around the pond near the tennis courts. The use of Garlon/Bark Oil to prohibit regrowth was discussed. Another weed-out is Sat. October 17.

The bat house project was tabled and will be discussed again next year. The Eagle Scout fence completion project above the Seven bridges ravine was completed and very much appreciated by all.

Wulff Lodge: Members are welcome for a tour of the lodge on October 15 at 5:30 PM. Sue Devcich will give the tour and discuss the possibility of designating the house as a historical site. The house needs work: a new porch, outside lighting, new bunk beds, replace oil heat with gas. The slope near the new bridge needs steps. Obtaining additional funds could come from the

Parks matching fund program, designation for youth development, or a reunion for Scouts who have used the lodge for overnight camping. The lodge is 100 years old in 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Uhrig (substituting for Jody Johnson)