

Attending: Rick Kaiser, Debby Pizur, Keith Schulenburg, Jody Johnson, Sue Hibben, Gene Johansen, Betsy Abert, Jackie Benka

We shared a tasty meal of pizza, salad, and cookies before we began our meeting.

No new security issues were reported, though a car was broken into the previous week in the 700 block of Hawthorn Ave. Police were called. No new information uncovered regarding the gated window on the beach house damaged in August which was captured on camera.

Eagle Scout Chris Sobszak has proposed that his trio of fellow musicians open our upcoming Pullin' o' the Green Irish party with 4 or 5 tunes before the Garlic Mustard Pickers begin playing... We will check with Don Lawson and the band before we decide.

The kiosk north of the golf course clubhouse has been completed. All agreed that this handsome kiosk allows for communication to be posted for all park users to read. You can see a photo of Eagle Scout candidate Zach Ollmann, builder of the kiosk, on our website, fogp.org. The Friends of Grant Park donated a share of the funds needed for its completion.

The county removed several willow trees from the Mill Pond embankment next to the dam as directed by the DNR. If the willows were uprooted by storms, the integrity of the embankment and the dam would be threatened. The DNR is in the process of determining if grinding the remaining stumps will weaken either the bank or dam.

Sweetwater, the Southeast Wisconsin Watershed Trust (SWWTR) is again offering matching mini-grants of \$1,000 to \$5,000 for 2015. FOGP was a recipient in 2012. Grants will be awarded for projects proposed to install rain gardens, stormwater runoff, fish barrier removal, new dog waste removal systems, rain barrel education and distribution, native plantings and invasive plant removal. The deadline for entries is November 14, 2014 at midnight. Dog waste stations might be a good choice for Grant Park, if someone wants to put together a proposal.

We received a check for \$500 from Chris Ponterri, organizer of the Lake Michigan Trail Marathon. Lessons were learned from the first race of its kind in Grant Park, but Chris says he looks forward to next year.

We still have not received our share of the proceeds from the recycling event we sponsored in August, although the small family-owned company is still deconstructing the donated computers and appliances. It was thought that we would earn \$100. CasBro, the company sponsoring, would like to repeat next year and all agreed this was a good project to sponsor.

We have no news to report regarding the Cudahy Sportsmen's Club and its pending lease extension with Milwaukee County Parks.

Given that our cleanup activities often result in removing much plastic and many plastic bags, we are investigating having some reusable shopping bags printed with our logo (Seven Bridges trail iconic entrance) with the purpose of selling them at the South Milwaukee Christmas Bazaar, held on Dec. 6th at the South Milwaukee High School. And, we hope to host an Owl Prowl at our December meeting. If there is no snow, we can walk more quietly and have a better chance of hearing the owls.

The next meeting will be November 13th.

Respectfully submitted by
Jody Johnson