

Friends of Grant Park
Online Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020

Attendees: Rick Kaiser, Jody Johnson, Jan Marsh, Pam Uhrig, Patrick Hintz, Lynn Meidam, Brian Morrison, Lynn Crawford, Debbie Pizur

Security – SM police do not appear to be prioritizing enforcement of dogs or bonfires on the beach at this time. No county sheriff's patrols have been observed by members.

Treasurers report: \$20,861.98 in our combined accounts; see attached reports.

Membership drive: \$330 in new membership fees. Lit drop was successful. Haven't seen increase in Facebook traffic though.

Beach road: Supervisor Shea forwarded information to Patrick. Patrick will continue to follow up on the project. Patrick asked if contractor could clean up gravel at the bottom of beach road, and will try and arrange a completion ceremony although the contractor has yet to announce a construction timeframe. Parks has budgeted money to fix Will-O-Way road in 2021.

Step projects: More info is needed to be able to make decision. Will-O-Way and Beach steps project budgets are needed so we can vote/approve and to write grants. Marek Landscaping sent design layouts for both granite steps, and black locust log steps. Black Locusts are an invasive tree specie and those removed from the park may be useful for our step project. The wood is naturally resistant to rot and long lasting, like treated lumber. Betsy will be in communication with parks forestry department about this opportunity. Could Parks sell Black Locusts to make money? Possibly. A bid will be forthcoming from the contractor.

Rick asked if we need approval from Parks to apply for grants. The answer is yes and we also need approval from the Park People. Getting answers from Parks administration is slow due to staff splitting their time by also working maintenance in the parks.

No report from Grant Park Unit Coordinator, Sean Kelly.

Patrick suggested an idea to ask people to sponsor barricades. Post info and picture of barricades and ask people to donate. Donors can sign their barricade to indicate sponsorship.

Debby to create draft letter to get art for 2022 calendar. Once letter is created, we will publicize need for submissions.

Fall beach clean-up: Jody will communicate with the Alliance for the Great Lakes and may sign up with them. Date to be Saturday, Sept. 12. Sean requested that bags of trash be placed at top of hill. Jody volunteers to pick up trash on Saturday and move it up the hill in her truck.

Suburban Soles guided nature walks are still proceeding, but the Sept. 27 event is pending, and has details that need to be ironed out.

South Shore Yacht Club slips are all unused.

Parks cut dead ash trees behind Deb P's house and they did a timely and good job.

Our next meeting will be held online on Sept. 10th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Debbie Pizur