

Friends of Grant Park Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2020

Attending: Jody Johnson, Jackie Benka, Lynn Crawford, Lynn Meidam, Justine Miller, Debby Pizur, Patrick Hintz

Security - No luck yet connecting with SMPD liaison. Jackie will try to contact SMPD. A Biblical passage was written in chalk on bike path, again.

Treasures report – see attached. Our membership canvassing has brought in \$440.

Beach Clean Up – Parks has defined strict rules for volunteer events: waivers with 4-page volunteer agreement and 2-page Covid form, and a 7-page volunteer handbook. Thomas More HS students want to volunteer and 2 other people emailed asking to volunteer. Jody sent flyer for event to Parks. Jackie will contact teacher at Thomas More.

Beach Road – Thank you to Patrick for all his work advocating for the opening of the road. Five members attended reopening ceremony. Bobby from OnMilwaukee, reported on event. He would like to do an article on the Club House. Preliminary project info was sent to Patrick about Will O Way road planned for 2021. Patrick posted the “Fair Deal” info on Facebook. The barricades needed for Grant Park that we donated were delivered. We are accepting funds for barricade sponsorship, if anyone’s interested.

Will O Way Stair Project – Marek Landscaping sent an invoice for \$570 for design work. Betsy has not heard back from Parks about the use of Black Locust trees, an invasive species in our park. We would like Parks to cut the trees down for use as stairs for our project. The trees have natural weather-resistant properties. Two more estimates were prepared for 4’ or 5’ wide granite stairs in case the Black Locust option is rejected. In response to the question on remaining Grant funding, we have \$500 left. The receipt and use of specific grant money will be part of the Treasurer's Report going forward.

Bucyrus Foundation Grant, Nov. 2019.....	\$2,000
Ravine Survey by raSmith Feb 4, 2020 (Ck 1026).....	\$1,500
Remaining Balance.....	\$500

Update from Sean Kelly – did not reply.

Milwaukee Parks Foundation event “Why Milwaukee County Parks Matter...” in Grant Park on Sat, 9/12 from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Other parks host the same event on Sat. 9/19. Patrick will represent FOGP. Jody will send a flyer about event.

Calendar – Letter was created to be sent out to make an appeal for artwork.

Places to post info – Facebook, Website, Next Door, SM.org, Mayor’s blog

Send info to – other friends’ groups, high schools, colleges, Wisconsin Art and Craft Council, League of Milwaukee Artists and Serendipitous Designs.

Winter Market – No update. Do we need to think of something to sell if the market happens?

Spooktacular – downtown Halloween event Sat. Oct. 24th, and they asked for organizations to join in by having a table on Milw. Ave. Pam and Jody both said they’d be available to attend and represent FOGP.

Library display case – Suggestion was made to do a display of eroded slopes with educational materials and an appeal for funds.

Videos – do videos on different topics to post on Facebook and website. It is a way to educate and raise funds.

Betsy volunteered to facilitate a Buckthorn WeedOut on Sat. 9/19, 9 am to 11 am, as well as 2 weekdays each week thereafter, with a maximum of 10 volunteers at a time due to Covid-19.

Lynn C. moved to adjourn at 7:17 pm, Deb P. seconded. Our next meeting will be held online on Thursday, Oct. 8th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Debbie Pizur
Vice President / Secretary