

Attending: Betsy Abert, Debby Pizur, Jackie Benka, Jody Johnson, Deb Wilhelm, Pam Uhrig, Rick Kaiser, James Davies, Tom Gardner, Annemarie Adsen, Lynn Meidam, Andrea Wallace, Aaron Wiech, Lynn Crawford, Sue Hibben, Brian Morrison

There were no security issues reported.

Treasurer's report from Lynn Crawford:

\$6,053.09 Guardian Credit Union

\$10,193.97 The Park People

\$16,247.06 total

We met with Aaron Wiech and Andrea Wallace, Concessions Unit Coordinators for Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, who asked our group to consider offering an attraction activity to coincide with the Traveling Beer Garden in Grant Park. Aaron gave some examples of what other parks had offered to beer garden attendees. He asked us to submit our ideas **before** April 6th to be included in the promotional materials. We agreed to brainstorm.

It is one week before our dinner party event, Pullin' o' the Green. Road signs will be posted on the parkway and at the main park entrance. Low ticket sales caused concern for our catering agreement, which was quoted for 100 attendees. We agreed to wait as long as possible before advising the caterer on quantity desired. We will decorate the hall on Thursday, March 15 at 6 pm. Guinness beer is NOT on tap, but will be available by the individual can. Raffle items are posted on website and facebook. Annemarie Adsen agreed to pick up 2 donated Oxalis plants, otherwise known as shamrocks, from Mari's Floral. FOGP t-shirts will be for sale to the public for \$10 each. Volunteers working at the event should arrive at 4 pm.

We had a brief report from Betsy Abert and James Davies who attended a portion of the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission meeting. (Note: a more detailed report will be given by Alice Thompson at our April meeting) Regarding water quality, the result of a survey where 108 people responded was discussed; Approximately 40% of those surveyed thought Oak Creek Mill Pond should be dredged vs. 40% who preferred it be restored to a more natural watercourse. Water quality measurements of dissolved oxygen in the various branches went from a rating of zero along the airport branch up to our area of the watershed measured in a four to five rating.

Bylaws for our group probably exist. Debby Pizur said she would search for those documents, written long ago. Otherwise, we need to draft our own to clarify governance and to comply with future grant applications. We tabled this item until after our March 16th party.

There was concern about record keeping for large donations. Jackie Benka recommended having a duplicate receipt book. Lynn Crawford has sent letters to donors acknowledging their donation for tax purposes. We will take this up when we discuss bylaws.

April 12th is\* confirmed as the date for Julia Robson and Alyssa Armbruster to come speak about their *Walk to Sustain Our Great Lakes* film. (\***Note**: We have postponed this, because the film is not out of post-production yet. We will reschedule in the fall)

Weed-Outs are scheduled for Saturday, May 5, 12 & 19, from 9 am to noon or however long volunteers are available. Oak Creek High School Ecology Club will co-sponsor a troop of Scouts along with parents. Can FOGP members send letters to various schools requesting volunteers? Multiple volunteers make all the difference. Burdock removal is scheduled for June 2 and 16th.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12 at 6:30 pm at the Golf Course Clubhouse. All are welcome to join us.

Respectfully submitted by

Jody Johnson, Consensus Chair and Secretary

[www.fogp.org](http://www.fogp.org)

Facebook: Friends of Grant Park (membership must be requested)