

Friends of Grant Park Minutes

April 8, 2021

Attending: Betsy Abert, Jan Marsh, Lynn Meidem, Pam Uhrig, Jody Johnson, Annemarie Adsen, Jackie Benka, Justine Miller, Patrick Hintz, Rick Kaiser, Debby Pizur, Lynn Crawford

Security: Betsy reported seeing several people removing cut lumber from park. These issues can be reported on the county website, which had been down but is now working:
issues.county.milwaukee.gov

Treasurer's Report

Checking, reconciled	\$6,834.55
Business Savings	3530.58
Park People acct as of Jan 15, 2021	13182.54
Total	\$23,547.67

Suburban Soles 2021: Although Brian Morrison was not present at this meeting, the Suburban Soles calendar is on the FoGP website and the weekly events have been posted on the FoGP facebook page. Suburban Soles T-shirts are available to members for about \$12. Deadline to order them is April 11. Contact Brian Morrison. Patrick Hintz volunteered to distribute flyers for Suburban Soles to area businesses to increase connections with local businesses.

Spotlight Grant Park in Hiking Report: The report is now available through the website TravelWisconsin.com. Pam, Justine and Patrick are reporters for the website, which lets potential hikers across the state know the trail conditions in Grant Park each week such as the Oak Leaf, Forked Aster and the 7 Bridges Ravine trails. Thank you, reporters.

Wulff Lodge access update: A permit was requested for use of Wulff Lodge for July 25 Suburban Soles walk and we submitted a fee reduction form. Betsy and Jody took measurements from the lodge for blinds and sent the information to Stephanie Oleszek, who had volunteered to get costs on blinds in a previous meeting. *Jody has since found a source for the blinds with the cost estimated to be \$136 for 17 mini-blinds, possibly with an 11% discount. (Stephanie was unable to match)*

Wil-O-Way project / FOGP steps project on hold?

Parks was going to incorporate this steps project into the overall Wil-O-Way road project. Now, the steps will be delayed for a year. The design we supported was not the type of steps that parks has approved for the area. Road and parking lot improvement projects are going forward this year at Wil-O-Way instead of the steps. One difficulty for FoGP to fund the steps project is that Parks wants a funding balance in place before they approve the project but we cannot write grants for funding until we get approval from Parks.

The ravine along the beach is being decimated and the stone walls along the trails are leaning over and will require reconstruction. These are additional projects.

Earth Day Activities

Beach Clean-up Sat., April 17th, 9 am to noon, main beach parking lot
WeedOut! Sat., April 24th, 9 am to noon, meet at tennis courts lot

Tree sapling planting, Sat., April 24th, 1 to 3 pm, meeting at area 8 lot

Eagle Scout Emilie Herbeck's project of zig zag split rail fencing:

A request for \$700 for 10 foot long cedar rails for cedar fencing for areas with erosive trails was made for an Eagle Scout Project that would start May or early June. Emilie was unable to attend our meeting to make the request. A report describing the project was requested before voting on funding. A WE Energies Grant may also provide a source funding. Lynn Crawford will reach out to Emilie Herbeck.

Birdwalk dates:

Informal walks on Sundays.

Suburban Soles Bird Walk May 16, meet at tennis courts. Educational walk for new birders with Betsy Abert and Rita Witkowski.

New Business

Question: East of Golf Course, near the kiosk, is that area being managed for native and invasive species? Pam and Annemarie would like to help. Contact is Emily Hunn at Parks.

New fundraising idea: Deb suggested a rummage sale or yard sale. Deb would offer up her front yard. If others wanted to join in, we could put out a list of addresses in rummage tour fashion.

Annemarie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Deb seconded.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 13th. In person? Outdoors?

Respectfully submitted by

Lynn Crawford