

Friends of Grant Park Meeting Minutes March 11, 2021

Attending: Jan Marsh, Jody Johnson, Brian Morrison, Deb Pizur, Stephanie Oleszek, Lynn Crawford, Debby Wilhelm, Justine Miller, Lynn Meidam, Pam Uhrig, Patrick Hintz, Carey B., William Sasse

Security – Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report – please see attached. One-year members and a lifetime member was added this month. Lynn C. has list of members as well as their interests in volunteering, listed on individual membership forms. We have 33 official dues paying members. Brian would like to help lead adding members.

Stephanie suggested a way to make donating easier utilizing a 'Donate Now' button. She also suggested we sign up for Amazon Smile as a way of receiving additional donations. We need to determine if we would be eligible since we have to use Park People's EIN.

Suburban Soles 2021 update – All events are finalized. Brian will send out info asap. Meeting with printer to have new signs made. He will post each walk on Facebook at appropriate time. Park's Lindsay Frost wants a list of events and said Parks is encouraging other groups to hold similar events. We are waiting for permission to access Wulff Lodge on July 25. See Attached.

Facebook issues – We had some issues on Facebook. Core members are keeping an eye on our page. Facebook is creating new rules for groups.

Discouraging harvest of ramps, mushrooms, etc. – Emily B., Naturalist for Parks, was contacted. She will have signs made to discourage harvesting. Years ago, Parks use to have signs posting the fine for picking flowers. Suggested we add more information on reasons not to harvest plants in parks on Facebook and Kiosk. Do we try to dissuade people from harvesting? If you feel safe to do so, please educate harvesters politely.

Planning Calendar – Jody has calendar on website. April 17th for Beach Clean-up. Waiting for information on bird walks and COVID precautions. Rick is sending out emails to previous *WeedOut!* volunteers. *WeedOut!* scheduled for the last Sat. in April and every Sat. in May. Trek and Treat Oct. 10th.

Wulff Lodge access update: July 25th & blinds – Stephanie gets discounts from Home Depot for blinds. Stephanie will check out prices. Waiting for permission to access Wulff Lodge.

Wil-O-Way Project – Patrick talked to Milwaukee County Supervisor Steven Shea about the construction project planned for Wil-O-Way. He will get info to Patrick on the project.

Tech Volunteer – Stephanie said, she'd volunteer. Her help is greatly appreciated!

On March 4th we received email asking for a volunteer reporter to share info about Grant Park hiking trails. Info would be shared on TravelWisconsin.com. Jody will share info with anyone that might be interested. Pam, Justine, Brian and Patrick volunteered to be trail reporters. A suggestion was made to put up electronic thermometer on website.

Fundraising committee update – Quilt virtual auction has one bid of \$200. Final day for bids is March 17, 5 pm.

Root Pike Watershed Initiative Network – Bill Sasse reported, making a strategic plan focusing on working with people from Milwaukee County to do weed outs in the watershed.

Brian moved to adjourn and Lynn C seconded.

Our next meeting will be held online on April 8th at 6:30 pm. As the weather warms, we look forward to eventually meeting in person in an outdoor setting.

Respectfully submitted by

Debbie Pizur, vice-chair & secretary