

Friends of Grant Park Minutes

Sept. 9, 2021

Attending: Pam Uhrig, Mary Fortier, Jody Johnson, Annemarie Adsen, Rick Kaiser, Jean Brylow, Deb Pizur, Bill Sasse, Chris Marifke, Lynn Crawford, Deb Wilhelm, Elana Suzanna, Susan Gresser

Security-no issues reported

Proposed Amendment to County ordinance, Section 47.08

This ordinance proposes to allow foraging in Milwaukee County Parks, which is now prohibited. County Supervisor Steve Shea joined us to hear Friends of Grant Park's views, which were unanimously in opposition. Public parks that are located in areas comparable in size to Milwaukee such as Cleveland, Chicago and Minneapolis do not allow foraging. A point was raised that if the county starts permitting consumption of plants and mushrooms from the parks and people become sick from what they ingest, the county may be sued. Another point made was that an inventory of vegetation must be completed in advance, so that the effects of any harvesting can be determined, and no inventory has been done.

Friends of Grant Park thank Steve Shea for joining us and also Supervisor Ryan Clancy who joined us for a tour of Grant Park earlier in the week.

While Steve Shea was present, the opportunity was taken to inform him of the lack of park personnel on Grant Park Beach, which leads to beach rules being ignored. Supervisor Shea stated he would look into the lack of personnel.

Treasurer's Report

Checking, reconciled	\$6,314.60
Savings	3,530.73
Park People acct as of Jan 15, 2021	13,205.54
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	\$23,050.87

A question was asked about the cost of blinds for Wulff Lodge. A \$140.30, check issued as reimbursement to Jody Johnson on July 7 for purchase of the blinds. The blinds have been installed.

Additional details are attached.

Funding for Suburban Soles 2022, Grants: Attached is the accounting for Suburban Soles program to date. Brian Morrison, founder and leader of Suburban Soles, estimated \$2000 is needed annually to fund this program and suggested grants as a source of funding. Deb Pizur offered to help with grants in the future, primarily from WE Energies, and perhaps from Ladish or Rotary. Brian Morrison will be reimbursed for the Suburban Soles t-shirts he purchased that will be sold over the next year for \$15-\$20.

Trek 'n Treat: More volunteers needed

Oct. 10, 1- 4 pm. Volunteers need to arrive at 12:30 pm, bring a chair, bug spray and water. Costumes for volunteers are encouraged. Contact Pam Uhrig if you can help.

Format for Correspondence from FoGP regarding donations

Treasurer Lynn Crawford sends a note to thank all monetary donors where contact info is available. Annemarie Adsen sends thank you notes to volunteers and for donations in kind. Corporate acknowledgements for donations will be posted on our website.

YouthWorks donation

For 8 weeks during the summer, Minneapolis-based YouthWorks sends young people on mission trips across the Midwest. YouthWorks members have spent 2 to 3 days per week for a period of about 8 weeks over the past 4 years in Grant Park removing invasives, assisting Master Gardeners, blocking social trails with brush and other tasks. This year alone Grant Park was provided 591 YouthWorks volunteer hours. Rick Kaiser motioned to donate \$500 to YouthWorks. Lynn Crawford seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal to combine 2022 SM Garden Tour with FOGP Art Fair at Wil-o-Way

Proposed by Jackie Benka, this would be a new initiative. The large parking lot near Wil-o-way would be the venue. Wil-o-Way Master Gardeners Chris Marifke and Becky Gresser are in favor, and the group was in general agreement.

FoGP Calendar update

An example of the 2022 calendar with Grant Park artwork and photos was passed around for us to see. Calendars will be available for purchase by the end of September.

Golfers teeing off into Lake Michigan at Warnimont

Sean Kelly will be contacted about this.

Thank you Bill Sasse for the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network Tour Aug 24!

Respectfully submitted by

Lynn Crawford