

**FRIENDS OF GRANT PARK
MINUTES
JAN 13, 2022**

In Attendance: Debby Pizur, Jackie Benka, Justine Miller, Annemarie Adsen, Lynn Crawford, Jan Marsh, SMPD Officer Chris Rohde, Patrick Hintz, Susan Gresser, Chris Marifke, Gene Johansen, Mary Fortier, Robert Kempke, Lyn Weber, Deb Wilhelm, David Kowalewski, Jody Johnson

Security

Officer Chris Rohde addressed security issues in Grant Park, which included a tree on fire, three persons lost in the park and needing help, and after-hour vehicles that were cited. Members mentioned visitors seen running remote controlled toy vehicles up and down the bluffs, causing damage and finding pistol cartridges in the park.

Treasurer Report

Checking, reconciled	\$7,680.84
Savings	3,560.85
Park People acct as of Oct 31, 2021	13,657.58
	\$24,899.27

\$20,000 designated for Grant Park ravine restoration on May 13, 2021. To be held for that purpose for 2 years.

Deb Pizur motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Annemarie Adsen.

Suggested Eaton Donation

Eaton Corporation from South Milwaukee contacted Friends of Grant Park and offered to make a sizeable donation. A variety of suggestions for projects large and small were brought up: Repair of bridge deterioration; replacement of leaning Lannon stones that mark the trail; hire a summer staff worker; install a Mobi-mat at the beach for wheelchair access to the water; repair the curved stairway to Wulff Lodge; renovate the deteriorating gargoyles at Brown Pavilion; or replenish our depleted savings after our current stairs proposal spending. Eaton could be acknowledged for their donation in signage. The areas of restoration and repair could be identified on a map for Eaton.

A suggestion was made to seek donations from other corporations for bridges needing repair and crediting them somewhere on that bridge as a donor.

Jody volunteered to draft a response to Eaton’s offer of a donation.

Nature Conservancy Liaison Event

The Nature Conservancy has created a liaison position in Milwaukee, which is being filled by Lamont Smith. Rick Kaiser has been in contact with Mr. Smith about meeting with our group and perhaps the other south shore friends’ groups.

Historic Site Identification

Jackie contacted Park People about creating signs that explain the various historical sites around Grant Park. Currently there is background information in Wulff Lodge kiosk; Mill Pond has plaques. Some funding for these signs has already been provided to Jackie.

Fundraising Committee: Calendar sales; Winter market sales; Wil-o-Way garden materials donation; Art in the Park; Quilt silent auction

Lynn Meidem has 22 FOGP 2022 calendars left, out of a 250 order. Pam deposited \$445 revenue from the Winter Market into our checking account, including donations. The Adult Day Services donation will be used to refresh gravel paths to the gardens for wheelchair access. This summer's art fair will be called Trillium Art Fair Wil-o-Way Grant Park. The quilt from the silent action will be used as a fundraiser at the Trillium Art Fair. Thank you to Deb Pizur for making and donating this quilt.

Suburban Soles 2022 Budget Proposal

There is \$1,700 in the budget for Suburban Soles. Brian Morrison is working on the program for 2022 season, which will include something new--3 night walks. Lynn Crawford and Patrick Hintz have agreed to meet with Brian Morrison to discuss fundraising and other topics.

Petition Drive for Funding of Parks

A first step can be meeting with South Milwaukee's Assembly member, Jessie Rodriguez on Jan 24 at South Milwaukee Library from 4-5 pm, then at the Oak Creek Library from 5:30-6:30 pm.

Stairs Proposal Update

Betsy Abert sent word that there is no news yet from Milwaukee County Parks about our current stairs proposal to reduce erosion of the ravines.

NEW BUSINESS

South Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce

The consensus among the group is to not join this organization for 2022.

Wil-o-Way Road Repairs

In the Spring, we should hold and publicize a thank you ceremony for this major road improvement to and around Wil-o-Way.

Motion for adjournment by Annemare Adsen, seconded by Deb Pizur. Our next meeting will be held on Feb. 10th at 6:30 pm in the golf course clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted by

Lynn Crawford