

Friends of Grant Park
Meeting Minutes August 11, 2022

Attending: Lyn Weber, Mary Fortier, Jackie Benka, Debby Pizur, Lynn Crawford, Lynn Meidam, Pam Uhrig, Dave Kowalewski, Keith Sobczak, Deb Sindric, Betsy Abert, Jody Johnson

Security – no representative from police.

Treasurer Report – please see attached report. We have started to pay for the step project. The project may cost a bit more than anticipated but we have enough money to cover in our treasury.

YouthWorks Report – Last day of work was July 28. On average there was 10 to 25 volunteers. The kids and adult chaperons worked all day Wednesday and Thursday mornings for 10 weeks. There was a total of 95 volunteers which worked 460 hours for FOGP. Thank you to the city of So. Milwaukee for providing t-shirts to YouthWork volunteers.

Fall WeedOut – emphasis for this fall will be cutting tree lilac and buckthorn. Two park employees will work 2 days to cut down tree lilac rather than girdle. Cutting is better than girdling. We appreciate Parks for making staff available and will donate \$400 to Parks that was earmarked for this work from grant funding already received.

Fall WeedOut dates: Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 22 and 29.

Tree Planting - planting will happen in late October. All trees will be fenced to stop deer from grazing on them. Rick has requested 15 - 20 UWM students to volunteer for community service hours. Students may lack transportation. If you are available to provide transportation to/from UWM, please contact Rick or Jody. Rick also contacted Marquette for student volunteers.

Eagle Scout Brady Atwell – project ideas?

1. Frisbee golf sign with rules
2. Directional Signpost at Seven Bridge entrance
3. Kelly Senior Center would like signs
4. Repair existing plexiglass and door frames in kiosks as needed

Eaton's Gift – Check was given in the amount of \$2500 to assist with cost of repairing ravine pathway. Funds may be redirected and used for step project at Wil-o-way if necessary. Parks planning department said posts for railings don't need to be set in concrete which will be a cost savings. A big thank you to Betsy for both designing and shepherding the steps project to fruition.

Discover Wellness Event – Aug. 18 held in area 4 from 4 - 7pm. We have 2 handouts to share on the benefits of being outside. Eight other organizations are participating. If you are interested in working at this event please contact Jody.

Fundraising

Calendar - please send pictures by Aug. 15th to friendsofgrantparkcalendar@gmail.com.

Trek 'n Treat - Oct. 9th. We received a \$500 grant from Greater Milwaukee Assoc. of Realtors Youth Foundation to help with expenditures.

Art fair - July 23, 2023 area 5 & 6. We may have plein aire artist. Suggestion was made to do rock painting at the fair. If anyone is going to the Morning Glory Art Fair, please share that we will be doing a fair and visit our website for more info. Preference given to local artist.

Community Night Out report – lots of interest in FOGP, especially Trek ‘n Treat. Very many positive responses.

Suburban Soles - received donations over \$100 from last few talks.

Doors Open South Milwaukee – Sept 17, from 10am to 4pm. City-wide event; FOGP will open doors at Wulff Lodge. We requested access to the clubhouse as well, but were denied by Parks due to golf course demands. An info booklet about Wulff Lodge history will be available at this event. Lyn W., Lynn Meidam and Deb Pizur volunteered to staff the lodge.

Dave made an oak plaque with the FOGP logo design carved into. It was very well done and many members were very interested in owning a plaque.

Current bat house is engulfed by dense thicket of young maple trees. Someone will contact Brian R at parks and asked if thicket can be thinned. Dave built a bat house and offered to donate it. Park personal maybe able to erect the house in a different location.

Steps Project – likely will begin in 12 weeks due to stone availability.

Park project redirecting Oak Creek along the Forked Astor Trail. Project is being done to reduce erosion and may also be better for the fish. City sewer project is across the street from the creek redirection project.

Motion to adjourn made by Deb Sindric; seconded by Lynn Crawford.

Our next meeting will be held on Sept. 8th at 6:30 pm in the golf course clubhouse.

Respectfully submitted by
Deb Pizur