

The Friends of Grant Park
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Jan. 12th, 6:30pm

Attending: Jody Johnson, Dave Kowalewski, Robert Kempke, Mary Fortier, Lynn Meidam, Lynn Crawford, Lyn Weber, Carla Uphill, Brian Morrison, Bill Sasse, Jan Marsh, Jackie Benka, Deb Pizur, Betsy Abert, Pam Uhrig

Security-No officer liaison in attendance. Mandarin duck seen at South Shore Park, rarely appears in our area. Man looking at the duck was approached and another man tried to rob him of his camera. The story has been posted on the FOGP Facebook page.

Homeless camp was found and it was suggested it be reported to the Sheriff's Dept.

Vehicles were seen on beach and reported to Sheriff. Several members have seen vehicles lights.

The correct number of the Sheriff's Dept. will be posted on our website and Facebook.

Treasurer's Report – Please see attached. All money is being kept for us by the Park People per their instructions. Final year-end report is pending due to information about money owed to us from the Park People Gala.

Potential grant projects update: Bucyrus, Eaton – We will be asking Eaton to cover cost of tree planting. A list of potential projects was sent to Parks to see what project they would be interested in (letter was read out loud). When Parks get back to us, we will follow through and write a grant to Bucyrus Foundation for support of the approved project.

Will add link to Miloakee Minute to Facebook and Website.

Fundraising committee:

Plant Sale will be at SM Farmers Market, June 1. Members and friends encouraged to save garden and house plants to donate to the sale.

Art Fair at 5A picnic shelter, July 23 from 10 am to 2pm. Committee needs someone to help with social media.

Trek 'n Treat at 5A picnic shelter, October 8th. Fee to attend will be raised to \$3 from \$2.

Calendar Sales, we have approximately \$1,800- possible themes for 2024 "Minute to Magnificent" or photos of people doing activities. In the past, there have been issues regarding the file size but those issues have been resolved.

Merchandise for sale- did not have a compelling idea of what to offer. A few totes and t-shirts are still available. Any new ideas are welcome.

Door Hangers with membership information will be prepared and members can distribute them in their neighborhoods. We made a good profit the last time it was done several years ago.

New fundraisers-One idea would be an afternoon tea with a speaker.

Gargoyle update- Two gargoyles that were removed from the pavilion several years ago due to rotting wood are being stored in order to investigate possible ways to restore or replicate them, as well as the remaining gargoyles in shelter 5A.

Suburban Soles update- A WE energies Foundation grant application will be filled out to support Suburban Soles. Met with Brian and he provided a lot of backup information.

Oak Creek Streambank Stabilization- Thank you letter sent to Supervisor Shea and County Exec. Crowley was read.

New business

Friends of Sheridan and Pulaski Parks- having a dinner dance fundraiser, Feb. 18, 5-11pm. Dresden Castle. Park Friends get tickets for \$50, email cgrundy2@me.com

Member asked if we want to maintain one of the flower beds at the Club House. Area can be used to advertise our group. Might be able to do it with Youth.

Native seed was bought for the area where Japanese Tree Lilac was removed. The seeds will be sown asap.

Dave Kowalewski has engraved several bird houses with the FOGP logo. He has also added a varmint preventer to the entrance holes. They will be installed in natural areas on the golf course.

Brian M. thanked the group for helping him and that the members should be proud of all we do.

Bill S. said that some money Root Pike WIN(Watershed Initiative Network) gets from Respect Our Waters can't be used in SM. If we want the group to do a presentation they will attend our meeting or we can go to one of their meetings.

The city has not done storm water education.

Next meeting: Thursday, Feb. 9, 6:30pm, Grant Park clubhouse

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Pizur