

**Friends of Grant Park  
Meeting Minutes May 11, 2023**

**Present:** Keith Sobczak, Dave Kowalewski, Bill Sasse, Lynn Crawford, Lyn Weber, Jody Johnson, Michael Gerlach, Lynn Meidam, Parick Hintz, Frank Gratke, Susan Gresser, Chris Marifke, Jackie Benka, Mary Fortier, Debby Pizur, Pam Uhrig

**Introductions**

**Security-** Park Rangers are asking staff to call for non-emergency park issues **414-257-7777**. Railing cap on 7 Bridges is missing. If you find it, please return it. Golf course flag poles are missing. Please report if you see anyone with a golf flag. Approximate cost of golf flag and pole is \$100.

**Treasurer's Report-** Please see attached  
Donations for Memorial tree – the tree was planted.

**Fundraising Events**

**Plant sale-**South Milwaukee Market, Thursday, June 1, bring plants a little before 3pm. Plants not sold will be sold at Wil-O-Way on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Art Fair-** Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. 20 spots are sold. Need helpers to assist artists getting their tables and items up to the pavilion at 8am. Other areas where help is needed; FoGP table, food booth, runner for extra items and supplies, possible help to sweep/blow out pavilion of any debris.

**Gargoyles** – carpenter will look at a gargoyle to see how they can be fixed. Many are damaged. Looking at ways to preserve them. Looking for grants to help repair the gargoyles and fundraisers such as adopt a gargoyle.

**Suburban Soles** – received \$140 in donations from bird event on May 7th. Next event is Riverkeepers, talking about water quality on May 21 at 10am at the Mill Pond and Prkwy Road. Mary F to host.

**Grant Updates** – Received SM Bucyrus Civic Grant to replace and add new display cases to Seven Bridges Kiosk. A new grant application was sent to Schoenleber Foundation to pay for trees. Will be notified after July 1. Initial letter was sent to Daybreak Fund to address environmental concerns.

**Donor Plaque-** To be put on new stairs cost \$100 and installed by Park People.

**Preserve Our Parks** – Advocacy Statement, Pat Jursik plans to attend the June meeting and discuss the importance of funding public parks and how we can support this initiative. See attached info.

**Weedouts** – May 13 at Wil-o-Way and May 20<sup>th</sup> meet at tennis courts. Rick would like people to help supervise high school students on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Grant Park is fortunate to host numerous native wildflowers in many areas. Discussed posting “No picking flowers” signs in kiosks and online.

**Calendar Theme-**Tiny to Tremendous – WANTED: Photos. Photographers on the FOGP Facebook site will be asked for their pictures. To submit photos for consideration for the 2024 calendar, send photos to [friendsofgrantpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofgrantpark@gmail.com)

**Bonsai Show-** Sept. 16, 9am to 5pm, Area 5A –Presented by the Milwaukee Bonsai Society. Learn how to start and care for a bonsai. FOGP will have a table.

**Club House Garden** – Master gardeners are planning to plant flowers around the Club House and maintain the garden. Plants will have identifications signs. A memorial donation for an avid golfer will be

used to purchase a shrub or another kind of plant. Watch for email requesting help with the initial planting.

**Other Business:** Guest presented information about the Oak Creek watershed study. Suggested that it would prove beneficial to the public to have a meeting about the Mill Pond and sediments issues with the county supervisor and experts in water quality from MMSD and the DNR. The Oak Creek Water Shed report has been published and is available at the SM library.

**NOTICE:** Next meeting will on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at Area 5A pavilion, as well as July 13 and August 10.

Respectfully submitted by Debby Pizur