

Friends of Grant Park Minutes

September 14, 2023, Area 5

Present-Debby Pizur, Mary Fortier, Lori Locke, Lynn Weber, Lynn Meidam, Annette Gifford, Jody Johnson, Rick Kaiser, Chris Marifke, Susan Gresser, Jan Marsh, Annemarie Adsen, Brian Morrison, Deb Wilhelm, Patrick Hintz, Pam Uhrig, Sean Kelly

Security – No Officer attended. A member reported that a man followed a couple of high school grads. SMPD was called and police took him into custody for questioning. A member asked if any members have seen anyone camping. Homeless people sometimes camp in county parks. Park Rangers will respond and campers are warned to be out in 5 days. Report to Park Rangers 414-257-7777, Sheriff's Dept. 414-278-4788, or Sean by email, Sean.Kelly@milwaukeecountywi.gov Sean likes to get pictures or videos of the violation or call Grant Park coordinator at 414-881-7941.

Treasurer's Report (attached)

7 Bridges Trail report – Radio controlled toy vehicles have been doing damage in 7 Bridges. A sign saying \$100 fine for damage to natural areas was posted in the Kiosk at the trailhead. Questions about the sign were directed to Sean. He recommends publishing the ordinance and add examples. Again, reporting of and/or pictures of violations should be sent to Sean via email, or see phone #'s above.

7 Bridges Beach Clean-up, Sept.16, 9-noon, park in Area 5. Jody announced that we are partnering with the Alliance for the Great Lakes. South Shore is getting a new beach through a grant. (Beach clean-up went well. Thanks to all who helped out that morning.)

Suburban Soles: Sept.10 event was cancelled. The last event of the year is on Sept. 24th, 10am-noon, Area 5, Fungus Among Us! Alan Bunde, former president of the Wisconsin Mycological Society digs in to explain everything you've ever wanted to know about fungi. Later this year the Fundraising committee will discuss details about the program for next year. Feedback greatly welcomed. Please reply to this email or a member of the board.

Weed-Out and tree planting: Oct. 7,14,21,28, see website for time and place. First two Saturdays are scheduled to plant trees and get them fenced. Oak Creek High School students and UWM students will work on the 7th and 14th. Check on website or Facebook to make sure event is not canceled. Looking for volunteers, especially on 21st. Email Rick to volunteer or if you have other concerns. kaiserlaw157@gmail.com

2024 Calendar update – Hope to have first proof next week. Thanks to Sue Hebner for helping with the calendar.

Trek 'n Treat, Oct. 8, Area 5A, 1-4pm – Lynn M created a Facebook event page. Those interested in volunteering can contact Pam at puhrig@hotmail.com or friendsofgrantpark@gmail.com. When volunteering please park at the far southern spots in parking lot Area 5 or the tennis courts lot. Donations for treats are welcome.

Fundraising update: Received \$2,000 from Eaton Foundation. SM Open Doors-131 people visited the lodge on Sept. 9. A few items were sold. Beach Walk-A possible event next year could be a bonfire at Wulff Lodge with s'mores and an astronomer instead of the beach. High winds this year prevented FoGP from having a bonfire at the beach.

New Business

Beach was closed for a few days prior to this meeting for the taping of a cooking show.

Someone thought a woman paddle boarder might be in trouble on the lake and emergency agencies were called. After the search, the woman was found safe on shore.

The school district is using natural products on the HS turf and no longer using chemicals on the grass. They also opted to using wood chips under the football field instead of rubber pellets.

There was a suggestion to have more garbage receptacles on the beach.

Respectfully submitted by

Debby Pizur