

# Friends of Grant Park Minutes

## Oct. 12, 2023

Present: Bob Dobson, Mary Fortier, Susan Gresser, Rick Kaiser, Dave Kowalewski, Debby Pizur, Jan Marsh, Lynn Crawford, Deb Sindric, Betsy Abert, Annette Gifford, Linda Marquardt, Lynn Meidam, Jody Johnson, Chris Marifke, Pam Uhrig

**Security** No representative from law enforcement was present tonight. Those in attendance shared these security items: A police presence has been noted in the park at 3-4 am. There has been tire track damage in Area 8. Thank you to Mary F for posting on our Friends of Grant Park facebook page the online contact to report park issues. A breakdown of trail etiquette on the Oak Leaf Trail has been noted from motorized bikes, speeding non-motorized bikes, loose dogs or dogs on leashes that extend across the trail, and walkers who are oblivious to their surroundings. A confrontation occurred when a woman drove up to the doggy bag dispenser and took all the bags.

### Treasurer's Report

Funds held by Park People 7/31	\$14,297.32
Petty Cash w/Lynn Crawford	\$486.00
Cash in 3 cash boxes	\$86.00
Total	\$ 14,869.32

**New plaque installed for new stairs near Wil-O-Way** Thank you to Keith S for all your work to have this plaque installed on a boulder at the top of the stairs honoring Friends of Grant Park and other funders of the bridge. Betsy will perform some maintenance on the plaque soon.

**Bluebird Report** Four bluebirds fledged in Grant Park, which has been reported to the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin. David K has volunteered to make bird houses with entrance holes designed for wrens and sell them to community members as a fundraiser for Friends of Grant Park. Since wrens (a native species) will take over bluebird nests, it is beneficial to have other housing options to lure the wrens away from the bluebird houses. Management for invasive English House Sparrows continues to be a challenge to the successful bluebird breeding.

**Golf course garden update** After much discussion of options, the consensus of the group was to not become involved with a Grant Park golf course garden. Jackie B has been the custodian of a memorial to be placed at the golf course. While a garden location had been considered, instead a memorial tree planted by Park People on the golf course grounds has been recommended. Lynn C will contact Jackie B about a memorial tree. Thank you to Master Gardeners, Susan G and Chris M for the planning and research into the requirements for installing and maintaining a garden at the golf course.

**2024 Calendar sales begin** For the general public calendars are \$15. For Friends of Grant Park members calendars are \$10. Photo contributors to the calendar receive a complimentary copy. Calendars will be sold at the Christmas Market , Dec 9, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Oak Creek Salvation Army. Thank you, Jody J, for all the hard work you put in to produce the 2024 calendars.

**Weedouts** Thank you, Rick K, for the huge amount of weedout work you have done with the volunteers. Last week UW-M volunteers worked hard in Grant Park. Remaining weedouts are Oct 21 and 28 in 2023.

**Trek ‘n Treat review** There were 270 wristbands sold and no one was turned away from the event. The volunteers were wonderful. Another successful Trek ‘n Treat event. Thank you, Pam U, for overseeing this popular event.

**Save the Slopes Sign** To be put in the kiosk, signs state toy vehicles are banned from the slopes and stone walls. Fines are up to \$263.50 for violations.

### **South Milwaukee Christmas Market**

Saturday, December 9, 2023

9 am – 2 pm

Salvation Army, 8853 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek

**Another big project** Have ideas for a big project in the Seven Bridges area ready for our November meeting.

**Nominate officers** Please send nominations to Pam U by Nov 1, 2023 so elections can be held at our next meeting in November.

Respectfully submitted by  
Lynn Crawford