

Friends of Grant Park
Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2024
6:30pm at the Clubhouse, 100 Hathorne Ave.

Present-Anne Schlimgen, Jeff Ziebelman, Lori Locke, Susan Gresser, Chris Marifke, Mary Fortier, Lynn Meidam, Deb Pizur, Barb Johnson, Tim Simmons, Robert Kempke, Jody Johnson, Betsy Abert, Jan Marsh, Bill Sasse, Deb Wilhelm, Jerry Connor, Patrick Hintz, Pam Uhrig

Security – People have posted on kiosks without permission. The police have been notified. If you see any inappropriate materials in or on the kiosks please contact a member of the fogp board and police or sheriffs. Do not try to remove materials on your own if the flyer is a sticker as the doors can be damaged if you try to scrape it off or use the wrong type of solvent.

SM Patrol watches and calls include but not limited to the following: car went off road near tennis courts, missing dogs, found wallets, a vehicle crash at Lake and Park, missing child and monitoring traffic on Lake Dr. Current crime rate is going down in Grant Park. Sheriff's Dept is the primary law enforcement for the county parks.

Members report seeing small motorcycles on bike path and in summer saw camping on the beach.

Treasurer's Report - Please see attached. Indigo has been fully paid for 7 Bridges plan.

Elections - Jody explained the ballot with officers and 3 members at large. Ballots were passed out and all current members have been reelected to their positions.

Weedouts – Rick has done an excellent job leading volunteers cutting buckthorn and creating fences on social paths. Over 65 trees were planted this fall. Trees had to be fenced and watered. Fogp got some help from a park employee on her own time to help water.

SM Winter Market – Dec. 14, 9am-2pm, SMHS. FOGP will have a booth and sell calendars, greeting cards, t-shirts and assorted miscellaneous items.

Seven Bridges Restoration – One year ago we looked for a company who would develop a concept plan. Indigo Ecological Desing was hired and they have completed the concept plan. Currently, Geosyntec Engineers is helping to write 2 grants to help pay for the second step. The second step is to hire a firm to survey the ravine for water flow, quality, depth, etc. The third step is to hire a company that will use the surveying information to create a plan that we can work from to start working on repairing the ravine.

Much discussion followed the review of the plan, such as the steps leading up the slope to Wulff Lodge, type of plants needed on the slopes, material used for the trails, etc. Other areas of concern that are not included in the plan were also mentioned, such as the condition of the main bridge/entrance and having another access to the beach at the north end of the ravine. Seeking funds will be a major part of Step 2.

Holiday get-together December 12 in the clubhouse – Meeting starts at 6pm, Get-together at 6:30. If you'd like to bring an hors d'oeuvre to share, please rsvp. Staff appreciation gift collected from members at November meeting. Cookie exchange optional, bring 2 doz of one type of cookie. All are Welcome!

Christmas Tea at the Clubhouse – Dec. 7, 11:30am to 2pm sponsored by SM Historical Society and Friends of the Mill Pond. Phone 414-571-1191 for tickets (\$35).

Other business – none

Respectfully submitted by D. Pizur