

FRIENDS OF GRANT PARK MINUTES

June 12, 2025

Attendance: Lynn Meidam, Lynn Crawford, Jody Johnson, Carla Uphill, Diane Hoffman, Frances Fletcher, Betsy Abert

Security Our South Milwaukee Police Officer listed the calls for the past month: a call for racing vehicles, but nothing found; fire near playground that was extinguished; a drunk man who fell and lacerated his head; a welfare check for a missing 8-year old that was resolved; an argument between a male and female; a backup for the Milwaukee County Sheriff making an arrest warrant.

Treasurer's Report

Cash Boxes, approximate		\$400.00	
Petty Cash held by Lynn Crawford		\$455.34	
Held by Park People on 1/1/25		\$17,850.92	
TOTAL ASSETS			\$18,706.26

Details are attached

Bird Feeder/Bird Watching The bird feeder will move to the Area 4 parking lot when the vehicles and dumpsters used for upgrading are no longer present. The new location will be close to where the bird seed can be stored.

Art Fair, July 20

Volunteer signup sheet was passed around. The donations from the artists that will be raffled at the art fair are now being periodically posted on the Friends of Grant Park FB page.

Pollinator Week Lynn C explained that several members of Friends of Grant Park participate in the Bumblebee Brigade, sponsored by Wehr Nature Center, acting as citizen scientists to monitor Bumble Bees. Anyone can become a member of the Bumble Bee Brigade, which is free, and only requires a phone or camera to photograph bees, plus the ability to submit photos on the Bumble Bee Brigade Website. <https://wiatri.net/inventory/bbb/>

Participants can pick the area they wish to monitor, spending about an hour a week in the field.

Free training for the Bumble Bee Brigade is held annually at Wehr Nature Center. The next session is June 28, 9:30 am to noon. Sign up by June 26, info here:

<https://www.wehrnaturecenter.com/event/milwaukee-county-parks-bumble-bee-monitoring-program-orientation-2/>

Please contact Halley at ParksComSci@milwaukeecountywi.gov for information and to register by June 26th.

Topic for future discussion—Reforestation

Friends of Grant Park will collaborate with Milwaukee County Parks to write a reforestation grant. The grant requires community input either during a presentation or from a Suburban Soles-type in-the-field event. Consensus at our June 12 meeting was for an in-the-field experience. DNR has not yet released the grant application. Currently our reforestation is done in the fall by planting 45-50 trees, that arrive in 5-gallon buckets.

Suburban Soles—Sunday, June 15, is Currents of Change with our State Climatologist. Seeking a volunteer to set up the 2026 Suburban Soles events. Deb P will assist.

Beer Garden Meet & Greet

Tues July 1 at 5 pm in Grant Park Area 5. Optional—bring a snack to share.

McGovern Park Senior Housing A letter was circulated that describes a plan for parkland to be privatized and built upon. FoGP members who wish to contact Steve Shea, County Supervisor, to share their opinion on privatizing county parkland for senior housing are encouraged to do so.

July 5th Cleanup in Grant Park Moran's Pub will sponsor a Fourth of July cleanup program. Meet at Area 3 and 4 from 9am-noon on July 5th. The first 40 volunteers who pick a bag of trash will be given a backpack, compliments of Moran's.

Shakespeare in the Park, July 27, 1-6:30pm, last performance at 5pm. The free performances will take place near the Swan Pond/Middle Pond (near the tennis courts parking lot). Bring your own chair. Snacks and water available for a donation. See optimisttheatre.org for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Crawford