

## Friends of Grant Park, Meeting Minutes, Thursday, February 12, 2026

Present: Robert Kempke, Judy Kempke, Mary Fortier, Chris Marifke, Susan Gresser, Barb Johnson, Carla Uphill, Debby Pizur, Dean Schuetz, Zac Johnson, Julie Johnson, Rhia Johnson, Jody Johnson, Jackie Benka, Mary Stahl Katte, Tom Katte, Jan Marsh, Alexis Schroeder, Deb Wilhelm, Betsy Abert, Pam Uhrig

Security - Offices Verhagen and Tuchscherer, no major incidents.

Announcement- UW Extension will have a plant sale soon.

Treasurer's Report - Please see attached

Grant Park Favorites is the theme for 2027 Calendar. Please get images of Grant Park in by August 1st. We have many photographers that take wonderful photos. Drop a pin with your photo if available. Send photos to FriendsOfGrantParkCalendar@gmail.com

2027 Spring Fundraiser Committee - Tuesday, March 3, 6 pm to 7pm at Better Together Cafe, feel free to join in please contact Rhia to RSVP or friendsofgrantpark@gmail.com

Bonsai workshop - Aug 9th, led by Bryan Lorenzen. The workshop will be sponsored by FOGP. Bryan will take care of collecting the workshop fee of \$60. The fee includes the tree, preparing and potting the tree plus a lesson on creating and caring for your tree and continuing support should you need it. Registration attached.

Update: 7 Bridges steps and trailhead entrance - Parks has a plan to replace bridge beams and concrete steps. We believe that there are drainage issues in that area. The old kiosk blew down. Now we need to decide where to put a new kiosk and what kind of new landscaping there should be.

SM Fire Dept would like to have access to the beach where the former area 7/8 beach trail steps were a long time ago. The board is working on the Parks, Community Project Request form to create the steps and is due on May 11th. Possible location where the slump on cliff happened.

Survey idea - take a count of the number of people and their zip codes that use the park. Bird feeders bring a lot of people to the park and would be a good place to count people. This info would be used to show the number of people that use the park when we write grants.

Suburban Soles - Two walks are secured on trees and moths. Tentative plans on walks include deer, turkeys and our tree planting project. We are looking for a senior that has extensive knowledge of the park and can share about the bygone days and is able to talk about what the park was like.

Advertising with County Supervisor Shea - All County Supervisors have money that they can use constituents to promote their activities. Jody will follow-up. Volunteer to help with printing.

Spring Market: March 14, 9am-2pm, SMHS - Will be selling birdhouses, greeting cards and ??? Stickers were suggested as a new item to sell.

Parks Weedout training, March 17, 6pm, Greenfield Pavilion -Rick is busy recruiting student volunteers. We will be receiving trees with 5-gallon root balls. Some tree fencing along the road has been stolen. Please keep a watch for anyone that is messing with the trees.

Other -amusing Buckthorn removal fundraiser in Eagle.

Friends summit review was informative, and members got a lot of ideas from each other. FOGP helping to sponsor Morans run during their St. Patrick's Day event.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Deb Pizur