

The Oakleaf

THE FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK NEWSLETTER

April 2012

FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Hoffland
Chairperson
233-8083

Michael Dieterle
Vice-Chairperson
233-9151

Tim Kessenich
Treasurer
238-7035

Tim Astfalk
Secretary
236-9744

Bob Downing
233-1986

Betsy Lane
238-6864

Janet Washbon
233-0809

This board meets monthly to discuss issues concerning Hoyt Park. We welcome your input.

Email: chair@hoypark.org
Website: www.hoypark.org

All donations support your park and are tax deductible. What a bargain! Thanks!

Mail to:
Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.
P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705-0542

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 24, 2011

6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Hoyt School Room 13

Please join us for the seventeenth Friends of Hoyt Park annual meeting. In addition to our annual business meeting, we are fortunate to have as our guest speaker Amy Scanlon and Sarah Lerner from the City of Madison.

Capital Improvement in Hoyt Park

The City of Madison proposes to spend \$150,000 over the next 2 years on improvement in Hoyt Park.

Come hear Any Scanlon, City Preservation Planner, talk about important historical features in Hoyt Park. Then Sarah Lerner, City Landscape Architect, will talk about how the City will be funding important upgrades and restorations of some historical features, plus a few other projects.

This is a great opportunity to hear how we will be benefiting from a Capital Improvement budget targeting Hoyt Park projects.

AGENDA

- 6:45 Registration and Welcome
- 7:00 Introduction
Guest Speakers Sarah Lerner and Amy Scanlon
- 8:00 Break for refreshments
courtesy of Whole Foods
- 8:15 Business Meeting
Board Member Elections
- 8:30 Questions & Answers –
general discussion
- 9:00 Adjourn



News and Activities

BOARD CHAIR

This is an amazing organization of caring people dedicated to the improvement of their neighborhood park, one that other groups around the city praise and emulate.

However, this organization is in danger of dissolving in the not too distant future. We have had generous donors who have made it possible to hire summer rangers for over 10 years. We have had many who come to our volunteer days. But, we have a dwindling number of people volunteering for workdays, administrative functions, and serving on the board. Board members are performing more and more administrative functions that can lead to burnout and a reluctance of others to serve. Fewer people join us for workdays which means we restore and protect fewer resources in the Park.

Keeping FHP alive and active supports quality of life in our neighborhood. So, please consider volunteering for the board, coming to workdays, or volunteering for an administrative functions like events, archiving, fundraising, membership, publications, or a special project. It can be a rewarding experience with a great group of people.

Cindy Hoffland, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

I am pleased to report that we finished 2011 with 157 paid memberships, which included 15 new members. This is an increase over 2010 when we had 140 memberships. For 2012, we so far have 99 paid memberships, less than the 125 at this time last year.

If this newsletter has a purple dot on your mailing label, you have not yet renewed your membership for 2012; please renew now.

We had several gift memberships given during the past year. This is an excellent way to introduce non-member friends and neighbors to our organization. Please consider this option. If you have any questions

about this, please feel free to contact me for details.

The entire Board would like to thank all Friends who contribute above the basic membership level. We use these funds for various projects throughout the park, and include plantings of native species, eliminating invasives, funding our summer ranger, providing matching funds or seed money for city grants, and many other worthwhile projects that make Hoyt Park better and more enjoyable for all of us.

Again, thank you for your generosity!
Mike Dieterle, Membership Committee

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

We finished our fiscal year on December 31, 2011 with a cash balance \$7,772.87. Our Endowment Fund had an end of year balance of \$20,048.11.

In 2011, our expenses exceeded our income, so our 2011 year-end cash balance is \$4,191.46 less than that of the previous year. We are proposing a leaner budget and we will need to seek additional fundraising in 2012.

Thank you all!

Tim Kessenich, Treasurer

PRAIRIE & WOODLAND

We accomplished a lot in 2011. In the spring, we contracted with Michler and Brown Ecological Services to conduct a controlled burn in both the Ready Prairie and in the woods along Regent Street. Our summer ranger worked extra hours removing garlic mustard, dames' rocket, and woody invasive species. Our volunteers spent several Saturday mornings digging, cutting, and hauling buckthorn and brush out of the woods. In the fall, we contracted with Good Oak

Ecological Services to cut woody invasive species from the woods along Regent Street. Special thanks to volunteer Si Widstrand who came in with his chain saw to clear the larger brush and trees that competed with the oaks.

Our priority in 2012 will continue to be clearing invasive species from the oak woods along Regent St. and below the overlook at Sunset Point. We are also planning to introduce suitable native plants and seeds in both the woods and in the clearing below the overlook. You can help. We encourage you to come out for Saturday workdays and see what's going on in the Park.

Tim Kessenich, Prairie Committee

SUMMER RANGER

We are extremely fortunate that Dustin Mireles is coming back as our summer ranger for 2012. Look for him patrolling and maintaining the Park and pulling invasives.

FULL MOON/OWL WALK

On a balmy Sunday evening, we gathered at the shelter to listen to owl expert Diane Dempsey share her insights on owls of Wisconsin. After learning many fun facts and listening to owl calls, we went on a brief walk to look for owls and gaze at stars.

Betsy Lane

HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 8th 2011, 38 Friends gathered to celebrate the "Wonders of Winter." Retired City of Madison Parks Planning and Development Manager Si Widstrand shared his knowledge of Hoyt and other City Parks. In addition to the featured speaker was our silent auction with items donated by members and local

T-SHIRTS

FHP t-shirts will be available at the Annual Meeting.

- Adult long-sleeve - \$20
- Adult short-sleeve - \$16
- Children short-sleeve - \$12

NOTE CARDS

FHP note cards will be available at the Annual Meeting, Century House, and Parks Division.

- Package of 6 cards - \$10



businesses. The dinner and auction are a significant part of our fundraising efforts generating close to \$1,000 this year. Thanks to all who attended! A special thanks to the auction donors.

Betsy Lane

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Cindy Hoffland, Tim Astfalk, Betsy Lane, and Janet Washbon's term has expired. All have given years of dedicated service. We nominate Jean MacCubbin, Peter Hanson, John Elliott, and Jane Voichick as Board member candidates for the election at the April annual meeting.

Tim Kessenich's term has also expired but is eligible for another 2-year term. We nominate Tim as a Board member candidate for another 2-year term.

If you are interested in joining the FHP Board, please contact Cindy Hoffland at 233-8083 by April 22.

Won't you consider being the representative from the Radio Park-Sunset Hills, Sunset Village, or Regent Neighborhood? Please contact a board member for details.

Neighborhood Representatives:

- VanChaMaShe – Braden Kerwin
- Radio Park-Sunset Hills – vacant
- Regent – vacant
- Sunset Village – vacant

Cindy Hoffland, Tim Astfalk, and Mike Dieterle, Nominating Committee

NEIGHBORING NEWS

Hoyt Park Area Joint Neighborhood Plan

The steering committee, City planning staff, consultant team, and interested area residents have been meeting

monthly since the last FHP newsletter; including two additional activities: a number of neighborhood association-sponsored mini-redevelopment plan meetings have taken place for areas affected by the respective residents; and a very active sustainability subcommittee meets monthly on the 2nd Monday 4- 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

Draft chapters of the final plan have been the subject of the most recent meetings and MARK your calendars for the next scheduled neighborhood-wide meeting to take place on May 30th at First Baptist Church, 518 N Franklin, from 6:30 -8:30 pm. All components will be ready for presentation and review.

To keep abreast of the meetings, draft documents, etc. see:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/planning/HoytParkPlan/>. Also consider signing up for a MYACCOUNT:

<https://my.cityofmadison.com/>

Jean MacCubbin, Co-Chair

Fiends of the Arboretum Plant Sale on Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 9am to 2pm provides over 100 species of native grasses, prairie plants, ferns, woodland flowers, shrubs, vines, and all native to the area. Read more at <http://uwarboretum.org/foa/native-plant-sale.php>.

WORK PARTIES & COMING EVENTS:

Please join us at one of our upcoming events.

ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 24,
6:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Hoyt School Room 13

EARTH DAY 2011

Saturday, April 21,
10:00 – 12:00 a.m.

Main parking lot

We will remove trash and pull garlic mustard. Bring gloves to protect your hands.

SUMMER PICNIC

Sunday, June 24,
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Main shelter

WORK DAYS

10:00-12:00 a.m.

April 21 – Earth Day pick-up

May 19 – prairie planting

June 16 – woodland invasives

July 21 – prairie maintenance

Aug 18 – buckthorn removal

Sept 15 – overlook work

Oct 20 – mulch trees

Nov 17 – overlook work

NATURE WALKS

Wednesday mornings,
8:00 a.m. as weather permits

Main parking lot

BOARD MEETINGS

Second Thursday of the
month, 6:45-9:00 p.m.

Sequoia Library

May 10

June 14

July 12

September 13

October 11

November 8



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P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705



Detach and mail with your check

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for calendar year 2012. If your mailing label has a purple dot on it, your membership has expired.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check appropriate boxes:

- Please contact me to volunteer by phone or email
- Please email newsletters to me instead of sending a paper copy
- Individual Membership \$15 Ranger Fund \$_____
- Household membership \$25 Endowment Fund \$_____
- General Fund \$_____



Thank you for becoming a member of Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc. All paid memberships are voting members. The FHP is a non-profit organization.

Donations are tax-deductible. Please send and make checks payable to:

Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.
P O Box 5542
Madison, WI 53705