

Friends of Hoyt Park

Minutes for Thursday: May 9, 2019 @6:45 PM

Sequoia Branch, Madison Public Library

Welcome & Introductions: Tim Astfalk brought the meeting to order at 6:50PM. Friends attendees included Tim Astfalk, Richard Adelman, Cheri Swenson, Tim Kessenich, Andrew Wickizer, Betsy Lane, Vaughan James, Anne Reis, Tomas Gverzdys and Ron Harris.

Public Comment: Via Ron H. in light of the destructive fire at the cathedral, Olin's comments on Notre Dame; the building is the finest ever seen.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of April 11, 2019 approved by voice vote pending minors edits..

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of May 7, 2019 cash on hand was \$12,269.72
- **Check approval:** Tim Kessinich requested reimbursement for postage stamps for thank you letters to donors.
- No outstanding bills to pay. Since January 1st we have received \$1050 for memorials in the name of Lee Weiss, artist and friend of the park.
- Report and check approval approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- May workday, May 18th. Meet at the main parking lot at 10am for garlic mustard and dames rocket removal.
- June workday, June 15th will be trail maintenance. Tim A will confirm with Laura B. at parks for delivery of gravel to the main parking lot.

Old Business:

- **Board Members:** Tim A will remain as chair, Richard A will remain as vice chair, Tim K will remain as treasurer, Cheri S will remain as secretary and Vaughan J will remain as head of membership.
- **PLATO walk:** PLATO has scheduled their walk through the park on May 29th. Tim K to talk about the history of the park and current park status. PLATO is not interested in combining the walk with a picnic lunch.
- **Alternative to Annual Picnic:** Discussion centered around a summertime family activity and it was decided that we would try a scavenger hunt. Tomas G to check on shelter availability for Sunday July 28th or August 4th. Anne Reis and Tomas G volunteered to

help organize. We will determine advertising later perhaps using SVCA and Regent neighborhood listserv and Next Door App.

- **Summer Newsletter:** Mid July publication. June 1st deadline for article submission to Vaughan.
- **2019 Annual Meeting review:** 19 attendees plus speaker. 8 of 19 were board members. Discussion of topic for 2020. Ron H. will do 'soft ask' to the Arboretum's Native Plant Garden Director Susan Carpenter. Another suggestion for future annual meeting speakers. Anna Andrzejewski, chair of the UW Art History department spoke at another venue about the history of the cultural landscape of parks and greenspace in Madison. Anna was interested in giving a similar talk to the FHP at a future meeting. The talk can be tailored to our needs but focused on the creation or preservation of parks and public green space as the city was built and mentioned the Park and Pleasure drive.
- **April Workday Review:** Cold and snowy for garlic mustard pull associated with the city's Earth Day Challenge. Small group of regulars collected around 4 large bags. City staff organizer came around mid-way through the morning to take a photo of the group. Hoyt park was the 2nd of the many city parks to actually have anyone show up for the challenge. The 12 individuals who signed up on the city website had called the city staff to cancel due to inclement weather.

New Business:

- **Membership:** Discussion on sending new park neighbors a letter inviting them to join us for the upcoming scavenger hunt or to just let them know about the park and the Friends group. Ron H. suggested that we contact realtor and former board member Debra Lawson to see if she could provide information on those who are new to the park area. Cheri S volunteered to contact Debra.
- Start date for new summer ranger Peter Pfister is May 22, 2019.

Next Meeting Date: June 13 at 6:45PM @ Sequoia library

Meeting adjourned @ 8:25PM