

Friends of Hoyt Park
Minutes for Thursday, Oct 10, 2019 @6:45 PM
Sequoia Branch, Madison Public Library

Welcome & Introductions: Tim Astfalk brought the meeting to order at 6:55PM. Friends attendees included Tim Astfalk, Cheri Swenson, Tim Kessenich, Andrew Wickizer and Ron Harris.

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of Sept 9, 2019 approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of Oct. 7, 2019 cash on hand was \$15,412.51
- Tim K has not yet rec'd the invoice from the City for the summer ranger, expected to be approximately \$9000.
- **Check approval:** none
- Report approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- **September work day:** Seed collecting was done at Pheasant Branch Conservancy with a small volunteer crew. Dane county provided clippers and seed collecting bags.
- **October 19 work day:** Brush clearing and garlic mustard pull with a focus on the area around the fireplaces north of the Overlook.
- **November 16 work day:** Brush clearing continued weather permitting.
- There was discussion about how to engage more people in the work day activities. Currently the work day is listed on the FOHP website and an email is sent out to all members. The city has park work days listed on the city website with an indication that volunteers are welcome. Tim A has been contacted, via listed email, by individuals who show an interest in a specific work day but who are unable to attend when the day comes around. Next year we will also list each work day on the city parks calendar on each work day date.

Old Business:

- **Newsletter:** Publication of the newsletter is still in progress and will most likely include our annual fundraising request.
- **Hoyt School Revamp:** Neighborhood informational meeting was held in September to gather input from neighbors. Betsy L and Richard A attended and informally reported back. Hoyt Park relevant topics of discussion/concern were how parking was going to be addressed, use of the sports fields, and the potential for run-off if more pavement is added. To keep in mind as plans develop is maintaining our easement from the stairs that come up from Shepard Terrace to the park.

New Business:

- **Prairie Burn 2020/ Dane Co. Environmental Council Grant:** We would like to ideally do a Spring 2020 burn of both prairies. Back-to-back burns help to control invasives more effectively. The Dane County Environmental Council is once again requesting \$1000 grant applications with the application due the end of February 2020 . The November meeting will include a decision as to whether to move forward with the grant application process and on what timeline. We would be able to use the 2018 application as a template and add two updated bids and pictures/outcomes from the Spring 2019 burn (conducted by Quercus for \$1150). If submitted, we won't have a response to the grant request until early April when the burn should be conducted. Questions that need to be addressed are whether we can afford to pay for the spring burn out of pocket with the off chance that we are not awarded the grant and how much we will take in from end of year donations. A final decision on timing of the burn will need to wait until January after year end donations.
- **Date for Owl walk and Winter Party:** The full moons in early 2020 are Friday Jan. 10 and Sunday Feb. 9. Since we would like to have the Owl walk a day or 2 before the full moon so that the moon is rising early in the evening, we have tentatively set the **Full Moon Owl walk** for Saturday, February 8. This would leave Sundays in January or later February for the Winter Sledding party. Date for the Sledding party will be determined at the Nov.14 meeting.
- **Sandwich Board for advertising events:** Andrew W. found Krylon White Board Paint online at Home Depot (\$18 per quart). Although for indoor use, we could try this on the sandwich boards made by Tomas G. allowing event information to be readily changed. Alternatively, we could buy some white board, cut to the current sandwich board size and attached for a changeable whiteboard surface OR we could purchase white board sandwich boards similar to the ones used by SVCA. Cheri S. will investigate pricing and report at the November meeting.

Next Meeting Date: November 14, 2019, 6:45PM @ Sequoya library

Meeting adjourned @ 8:15PM