

**Friends of Hoyt Park**  
**Minutes for Monday, September 9, 2019 @6:45 PM**  
**Sequoia Branch, Madison Public Library**

**Welcome & Introductions:** Tim Astfalk brought the meeting to order at 6:48PM. Friends attendees included Tim Astfalk, Richard Adelman, Cheri Swenson, Tim Kessenich, and Betsy Lane.

**Public Comment:** None

**Meeting Minutes:** Minutes for the meeting of July 11, 2019 were previously approved by email vote.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- **Financials:** As of September 7, 2019 cash on hand was \$15,412.51. This amount includes the 2019 distribution \$1759 from the Endowment Fund. The summer ranger has not yet been paid (approximately \$9000).
- **Check approval:** none
- Report approved by voice vote.

**Announcements:**

- **September 21 work day:** Gathering of prairie seed from Pheasant Branch Conservancy. Meet at the main parking lot at 9:30AM for carpooling or at the conservancy at 10AM. Work day to be led by Tim K.
- **October 19th workday:** Possible brush removal. Activity to be determined at the October 10 meeting.

**Old Business:**

- **Summer Ranger Review:** Ranger Peter Pfister left in mid-August to take a full time job in Texas. He was in the park for 40 hours per week starting early morning and concentrated on buckthorn removal in the area between the asphalt path and Regent St. leading up to the main shelter. Peter also worked on invasive removal in the Ready Prairie. He has not yet submitted his final report but was noted to be one of the best rangers we have had.
- **Reschedule Newsletter:** The goal for the newsletter distribution will be reset at or near the end of November. We will be able to recap the Ranger's contributions as well as the summer events held in the park.
- **Review of Picnic, July/August workdays:** Thanks to Tomas G and Anne R for their work on making the **annual picnic** a great success. There were about 40 people, a good mix of couples, individuals and families, who attended with lots of good food. People reported having found out about the picnic from a variety of sources. Two families saw the sandwich board signs on either Regent or Bluff, one family saw the posting on the SVCA list serve and one on the Regent list serve. Several families learned about the picnic through word of mouth. The photo scavenger hunt was a great success. The winning Mom and son team were from the VanChaMaChe neighborhood and were very

excited about all the new places in the park that they had never seen before. It was a great way to expose new people to 'our' wonderful park. **July and August workdays** were very lightly attended but the fireplaces were cleaned out in July and some buckthorn was removed on the hot August workday.

**New Business:**

- **MMSD plans for Hoyt School:** MMSD is holding a September 18 meeting for public input regarding their consideration of turing Hoyt School back into a school building. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the district's vision and listen to items they should consider while fleshing out their plans. MMSD is considering putting the funding necessary to remodel Hoyt School into their 2020 facility referendum. The first of three meetings will be held at 6pm at First Baptist Church, 518 N. Franklin Ave.
- **Graffiti at the Overlook:** A large amount of tagging was done to the wall at the Overlook over the weekend of Sept. 7th and 8th. The city responded quickly and was already working on removal of the spray paint on Monday September 9th.

**Next Meeting Date:** October 10, 6:45PM @ Sequoya library

**Meeting adjourned @ 7:30PM**