

Friends of Hoyt Park
Minutes for Thursday, January 9, 2020 @6:45 PM
Sequoia Branch, Madison Public Library

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

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of Nov. 14, 2019 approved by email vote in Dec.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of January 7, 2020 cash on hand was \$10,127.
- **Check approval:** \$14 to Cheri S and \$10 to Tim K for stamps.
- There have been 18 membership renewals, 2 of them on through PayPal, since Oct. 3rd. The board decided to send out membership reminder letters after the April Annual meeting to all members who have not renewed. Tim K filed the WI form required to maintain non-profit status with the Dept. of Financial Institutions (\$10).
- Report approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- **November workday review:** attended by 6 members with no new people and involved brush hauling from the area at the Overlook between the path and the chain link fence. Prairie seed was spread in that same area.

Old Business:

- **Winter Party:** Much awaited snow is predicted for the Winter Sledding party to be held Jan. 12th from 1-3pm. Tomas G is organizing it and has put up two sandwich boards (Bluff St. and Regent St. just past Hoyt School), listed the event on the Next Door app, made an email template, made a flyer template and is spreading the word to friends and co-workers. The flyer has or will be posted on the FHP, Regent, SVCA and Rocky Bluff list serves or Facebook pages. Board members will provide hot chocolate, snacks and firewood. Attendees have also been asked to provide a snack.
- **Prairie Burn/ Dane Co. Environmental Council Grant:** Discussion regarding the burning of the prairies resulting in a voice vote supporting the decision to use FHP funds in the Spring of 2020 to burn only the Overlook Prairie (Quercus \$800). Tim A assisted by Tim K will put together the grant proposal to Dane Co. Environmental Council for \$1000 to help to offset the Spring 2021 burning of both the Overlook and Ready prairies.
- **Full Moon Owl walk:** To be held at the Main Shelter on Feb. 8 at 5:30PM. Anne R. will provide taxidermy owls for viewing and will serve as a walk leader along with Tim A. Tomas G will provide the hot water for cocoa and he and Lisa will post the two sandwich boards with event details on Bluff and Regent St. Anne R. will mock up a flyer for electronic distribution Board members will provide snacks (Owl cookies anyone?).
- **Sandwich Board use for advertising:** The board has agreed that the Sandwich Board approach to advertising (6 annual) events and monthly workdays is worth pursuing. The board determined that we would need to construct 6 reversible sandwich boards to advertise the 6 events. Board members will look in their garages for scrap plywood that

could be used. Logistical details to be determined. Tomas G who has prepared the boards in the past, suggested use of spray paint (Rust-Oleum Painters Touch 2X Flat White; Ace, HomeDepot) to repaint the sign areas that need to be changed such as date, time etc. with paint markers (Sharpie Oil-based Paint Markers; Target, Home Depot) for making the changes.

- **Update on Hoyt School Plans:** Members who attended the Dec. 10th meeting held by area Alder Shiva B. with presenters from MMSD and City of Madison departments involved in the planning process, reported that there were no plans for any more paving at Hoyt School and no use of the lower north side parking lot. Water runoff will be addressed by putting a rain gutter on the east side of the school, making some water runoff improvements in the east side driveway and making a bio-retention basin with storm sewer connection in the green space on the north side of the school. All plans for remodeling and conversion of Hoyt School to Capital High School are dependent upon voters passing a 2020 school capital referendum. The school would be closed for about 6 months during construction and classes would begin in the fall of 2022.

New Business:

- **FHP Lifetime Membership option:** Member Glenn Teschendorf has offered to make a \$2000 donation to FHP in exchange for a Lifetime Membership. The board, by voice vote, acknowledged the generous gift and agreed to grant the Lifetime Membership to the Teschendorf's. FHP will also acknowledge the gift on the FHP website. Discussion regarding whether to make this an option for other members concluded with the decision that the board would/could grant such lifetime memberships on an ad hoc basis.
- **Annual meeting plans:** Vaughan J. will contact Bethany Methodist Church to confirm that FHP can use the upstairs room on April 16, 2020 at 7PM. Cheri S. has identified Daniel Einstein, Historic and Cultural Resources Manager of the UW Madison Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture who will do a presentation on the legacy of Madison's Brittingham family.
- **Recruiting New Board members:** There are 4 of the 7 current board members who are term limiting off of the board (Tim A., Tim K, Richard A. and Andrew W.) and new or past board members need to be recruited. Suggestions for identifying new board members included posting on the FHP website and Facebook page, use of the Next Door App and a flyer or posting at the Owl walk Feb. 8th. Most likely the best option will be for current board members to speak to possible candidates to gauge interest.
- **Glenn T report:** Glenn has been conducting cutting and removal of Buckthorn and Honeysuckle brush between the lower Bluff trail and Bluff St. He has had 30 different brush piles picked up by the city and made noticeable progress on the north side of the rubble piles along that trail. He has prepared a report to be reviewed by Tim A and Tim K. Glenn is willing to continue working in the park in 2020 as well.

Next Meeting Date: Feb. 13, 6:45PM @ Sequoya library

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30 PM