

Friends of Hoyt Park
Minutes for Thursday, September 10, 2020 @6:45 PM
Hoyt Park, Roy's Shelter

Welcome & Introductions: Tim Astfalk brought the meeting to order at 6:55PM. Friends attendees included Tim Astfalk, Richard Adelman, Cheri Swenson, and Rich Jablonski.

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of July 16, 2020 approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of Sept. 7, 2020 cash on hand was \$17,639.82
- **Check approval:** none
- \$1000 check was received from Dane County Environmental Council to help offset the prairie burn tentatively set for Spring 2021
- \$2,815 in membership contributions was rec'd since July 8. A request was made for information on the number of members that represents, how many of those members are new and whether the money was collected via check or PayPal.
- Report approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- Next work day is Sept 19. Prairie seed collection will be done at our park as the Pheasant Branch Conservancy parking lots are full most weekends with the public using the Conservancy. Workers will meet at the main parking lot at 10AM.

Old Business:

- **Summer Intern:** University of Minnesota Environmental Education undergrad Joe Holdreith completed his 120 hours in July and August. He worked in the park on trail maintenance, invasive removal and wrote a great owl fact sheet and a script that can be used by the Friends group for the annual Owl Walk. Joe also created a Wildflower guide with background on why wildflowers are important and suggested Apps for identification.
- **Newsletter articles:** Assigned newsletter articles should be forwarded to Vaughan J. The goal for newsletter timing will be to have a mock up newsletter available for review at the Oct. FHP board meeting with envelope stuffing to be done in early November.
- **Board member transition:** The method to be used during this pandemic year will be for a board member who is aging out to resign and the remaining board members can then appoint a replacement. Richard A. resigned and Rich J. was appointed to fill the Vice Chair position. Current Treasurer Tim K. has been working with Glenn T. to transition the Treasurer's position. Glenn T. now has the GnuCash software and a copy of the financial data. He will review and ask needed questions. If present at the October board meeting, it is probable that the Treasurer's position can be filled.
- **Moving or storing Sandwich Boards:** The 2 sandwich boards that have been on display at various places in the park will be moved into the maintenance shed for the winter.

New Business:

- **Homeowner concerns about buckthorn removal:** A homeowner close to the Hillcrest Rd entrance to the park was concerned about privacy as buckthorn was being removed from the wooded area, opening up sightlines from the park to their property. Tim A was going to speak with the homeowner and let them know that further buckthorn removal would be discontinued but that the material already cut down would be treated so that those plants would not grow back. This would leave a privacy buffer between their property and the park.
- **Communication between the city parks department and the Friends group:** An email will be drafted to establish a conduit for communication regarding issues important to the FHP such as mowing, new curb installation, after hours parking, crime issues, permits to access properties adjacent to the park and planned park improvements. There is a new Westside Park Supervisor.

Next Meeting Date: October 8, 6:45PM @ Roy's Shelter or via Zoom

Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 PM