

Friends of Hoyt Park
Minutes for Thursday, April 18, 2021 @6:45 PM
Zoom Meeting

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

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of March 11, 2021 approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of April 7, 2021 cash on hand was \$22,713. Member contributions totaled \$1270, up \$230 from last month.
- **Check approval:** none
- Report approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- **Exact Sciences Work Day:** Tim A has agreed to assist a volunteer group from Exact Sciences in pulling garlic mustard and dames rocket in the park on Friday April 9, 11AM. The group contacted Tim through the Madison Parks website/ volunteers opportunities.
- **Earth Day Challenge Work Day:** Our usual 3rd Saturday work day will be replaced by a work day coinciding with the Madison Parks Earth Day Challenge on April 24th. Volunteers will meet at the main parking lot for trash pick up and pulling garlic mustard and dames rocket. Both these invasives are prevalent in the park so we are expected to be able to keep many hands busy.

Old Business:

- **Vegetation Management Recommendation from Good Oak:** We are still waiting for Madison Parks review of the proposal by Frank Hassler. Last month Tim A sent an email to Paul Q, Parks Conservation Supervisor, who forwarded the email to the city person who needs to approve. No action to date. Anne R. suggested that we try to set up a short video call with the city reviewer to walk them through the report in order to facilitate the review. Tim A to check on whether this can happen. City approval is needed to go beyond the currently approved management plan. Vegetation management will proceed according to the previous plan.
- **Board Transition:** Welcome to Erin Augspurger who attended the meeting with an interest in taking the open Regent Neighborhood Rep position. Glenn T is still interested in the treasurer position and Tim K will try to have a face-to-face meeting to go over the logistics of the position before the July 25th Annual Meeting. Rich Jablonski has expressed interest in taking the Chair position. Andrew W has recruited Sunset Hills neighbor to be a board member at large and will invite Phil to the May board meeting. Tim A has reached out to a couple of Rocky Bluff neighbors to fill the open Rocky Bluff Neighborhood Rep position but neither have committed. They will continue to be invited

to the board meetings. New board members will be up for a membership vote at the July 25th Annual Meeting.

- **Summer Ranger hiring:** With Paul Q help city HR has agreed to let us offer the Summer Ranger position to 2020 candidate Andy G. We were ready to offer the 2020 position to him when the city implemented the 2020 Covid hiring freeze. Tim K has agreed to be the summer ranger contact person.
- **July 25th Annual Meeting:** The meeting will be held at the reserved main shelter from noon-3PM on Sunday July 25th. The proposed format will be to forgo a speaker this year and will encourage attendees to bring a personal picnic lunch. FHP will provide family-friendly event(s) and we discussed having an ice cream truck present at the event. Cheri S presented information on two different trucks; Cool Sweet Treats and Kona Ice. Madison Parks said we could have a food truck at the event as long as the vendor is pre-paid and no money changes hands. The board gave Cheri the OK to talk to each vendor and determine who could best meet our needs. Cheri has obtained sponsorship for the cost of having the ice cream truck. We would have a donation bucket out by the food truck with all donations in support of the FHP. We would plan to advertise our event on neighborhood list-serves and sandwich boards hoping to draw crowds similar to our early 2020 Sledding party and Owl Walk (nearly 100 attendees).
- **Annual Budget review:** An annual budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting by Treasurer Tim K. A draft was reviewed by the Board and suggestions were made. The revised budget will be reviewed at the May Board meeting.
- **FHP Social Media:** The Friends Facebook page is getting nearly daily updates from Cheri S with posts being viewed by about 55 views and 40 engagements (responses such as 'likes') per month. The friends.of.hoyt.park Instagram account is active and new photos or videos can be sent to Rich J for posting. Cheri suggested that we talk to other people creating Social Media posts for other non-profits. Ann Shea was suggested from Madison Parks. Cheri to contact.

New Business:

- **Change in monthly meeting location:** The board voted to meet in person at the May 13th meeting. We will meet at Roys Shelter at 6:45PM.

Next Meeting Date: May 13, 6:45PM @ Roys Shelter

Meeting adjourned @ 8:25 PM