

Friends of Hoyt Park
Minutes for Thursday, May 13, 2021 @6:45 PM
Roys Shelter Hoyt Park

Welcome & Introductions: Tim Astfalk brought the meeting to order at 6:50 PM. Friends attendees included Tim Astfalk, Rich Jablonski, Cheri Swenson, Tim Kessenich, Glenn Teschendorf, Anne Reis, Richard Adelman, Betsy Lane, Erin Augspurger and Ranger Andy Gricevich.

Public Comment: Tim Metcalfe met with the board to talk about options for the chain link fence that is west of the Overlook and which borders his property. Now that the area on either side of the fence has been cleared of undesirable trees and bushes, the fence is unsightly. Although the residents on DuRose cannot see the fence from their properties, Metcalfe is interested in working with the city to soften the look of the fence from the park side. Having been given our support Tim M will speak to landscape/conservation consultants that he has worked with to come up with a plan for choices of vines, tall prairie plants and shrubs to screen the fence. The Friends suggested that the screening should be in line with our Master Plan.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes for the meeting of April 8, 2021 approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Financials:** As of May 11, 2021 cash on hand was \$21,832.82 . Member contributions totaled \$1575 , up \$705 from last month. Minimal spending over the last month.
- **Check approval:** Tim K asked the board for approval of up to \$100 for disposal of herbicide rinsate at Clean Sweep. Approved by voice vote.
- Report approved by voice vote.

Announcements:

- **May Work Day:** May 15th, 10am at the main parking lot. We will pull garlic mustard and dames rocket south of the Ready Prairie. Leaders Cheri S and Tim K.

Old Business:

- **Vegetation Management recommendation by Good Oak/ Frank Hassler:** Paul Q to meet with city parks staff Ann re:Good Oaks recommendation on May 14th.
- **Board Transition:** Bluff St neighbor Kate Austin is interested in being a board member-at-large or Rocky Bluff representative but was unable to attend the meeting.
- **July 25th Annual Membership meeting:** The Main Shelter is reserved from noon-3PM. In addition to the business meeting, the board had previously discussed a family games event, games to be decided at the June meeting. Also to be decided is whether to present this as a BYO picnic. Cheri S investigated treat food trucks and determined that Cool Sweet Treats ice cream truck would fit our needs for the annual meeting. The truck will be parked at the main shelter from 12:30-2:30PM serving a variety of 7 different ice cream or fruit juice treats. FHP member Tom Z has offered to sponsor the truck and prepay for the 240 treats. The Friends will have a donation bucket by the ice cream truck with all donations going to support the Friends group.

- **FHP Social Media:** Cheri S contacted Madison Parks Public Information Officer Ann Shea for guidance on how to effectively use our Facebook and Instagram accounts to engage the community with the park. Ann suggested that we might want to link our FB and Instagram accounts so that a posting on one platform also gets posted on the other. Cheri and Rich J will work to link the two accounts. Anne R contacted the WI DNR social media person who said that they get more response from social media posts and videos that show people engaged in activities (in the park).

New Business:

- **Sandwich Board use for 2021:** It was decided that FHP would use the sandwich boards again to direct park users to the FHP website to support the work of the Friends group. Cheri S will redo the boards with updated information. Boards will also be used to advertise the July Annual meeting once we get closer to the event.
- **Ranger Andy Gricevich:** Ranger Andy gave an update on his activities to date. He has been working with Glenn T and Tim K to clear invasives as well as becoming more familiar with the park. His hours in June will be more regular although yet undetermined.
- **Bat Survey:** Anne R suggested that we have a 2021 bat survey event in August when sunset is around 8PM. That way it will be dark/dusk at a reasonable hour. Target dates around August 20-22.

Next Meeting Date: June 10, 2021 6:45PM @ Roys Shelter

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30 PM