

Lake Park Friends Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 • 7:00 p.m. • Location: **Warming House**

Present: Jennifer Grasse, Steve Duback, Alice Wilson, Phil Schultz, Dennis Buettner, Brian Hansen, Anne Booth, Jim Cope, Mary Ritchie, Steve Morse, Katie West, Sarah Zimmerman, Tom Cheney, Ann Wollmer (Administrator)

Excused: BG Hook, Susanna Mortara, Brian Desplaines

1. Phil Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. Steve Duback made a motion to approve the March 23, 2010 minutes, Jim Cope seconded, and the motion carried without opposition.
3. New board members Jennifer Grasse and Alice Wilson were introduced, and the continuing directors and Administrator Ann Wollmer introduced themselves.
4. There was no government report.
5. The Treasurer's Report was received via email. No questions were raised concerning the report.
6. Administrator's Report:

Ann Wollmer distributed a membership report. The directors agreed to contact people they know who are lapsed members.

Anne Booth moved that anyone buying a bench should have a membership for the next 12 months, Brian Hansen seconded, and the motion passed without opposition.

We have 414 memberships, and 646 members (including people who have complimentary memberships). Since March 23, there have been 9 new memberships (11 members).

Anne Booth and Ann Wollmer did a membership drive, mailing and delivering brochures around town. Volunteers are still needed to distribute them.

7. Old business:
 - a. Waterfall Ravine update:

Phil handed out a summary of funds received, showing we've spent about \$87,000 and have \$42,000 left (but an additional \$10,000 just received was not included on the summary, so in fact we have \$52,000 left). Our aim is to keep \$10,000 in reserve for maintenance. A concrete walk, grass at the top, landscape repairs down the bluff, construction of a rain garden and removal of invasive species are the big items remaining to complete. Kevin Haley has committed to produce a plan for the rain garden and knows we need it in time for the June 26 dedication ceremony. We have space to put two benches in and will ask people to sponsor them; we will also ask for donations for the pond and garden at the base of the falls. The question was raised whether LPF should commit \$10,000 of our existing reserves to create a maintenance fund. This would allow us to do a better job by committing more money now to the rain garden. We will also add a

second recirculating pump for the bottom pool. Two plaques will recognize donors to the waterfall ravine project.

b. Performance Structure update:

Tom Cheney handed out a detailed project summary. We have updated numbers from the architect showing that our costs have gone up. Steve Duback asked whether the design has been approved. Tom is the project manager and noted that the board had viewed the proposed design. The committee includes Tom, Mary, Phil, Anne, and Kevin Haley. The Milwaukee Historic Preservation Commission approved the concept and siting, but requested more information on materials. The design will need to be approved by City of Milwaukee Department of City Development. The donor would like details on disbursements. So far we've been billed by La Dallman (the architects) for \$11,000, we've approved and paid \$5000 and have \$6000 outstanding. The donor's family representative likes the design. She supported holding off if we need to raise more money; time is not an issue for them.

We need to decide whether to use some of our unrestricted funds (we have \$137,000) and/or do fundraising to make up the additional \$55,000 if we go forward.

Katie West moved that LPF pay the architect's bill for \$6000, Jim Cope seconded, and the motion passed without opposition.

It was suggested we should ask La Dallman present us with solutions to the questions and problems we've been communicating to them for the last six months or more. Tom will ask La Dallman to present to the board at 5:00 on Tuesday, June 29.

c. Americorps update: Brian Hansen

Molly is doing an excellent job. She is three months in and has three months to go, and has already committed 407 hours out of her contracted 450. Brian reports that we got a great value for the money we committed to the position. Molly is very skilled and motivated in dealing with garlic mustard and other invasive species. It would be nice to sponsor a similar position next summer.

d. Grand Staircase update: Dennis Buettner

We need 48 hours of notice before spraying herbicide, then it is a wait of 10 days before we know whether a second application is needed. Locations of desirable plants were noted. Sue Black is urging that progress continue. Volunteers are needed this Saturday around 9:30 to dig and transplant plants.

Brian suggested that we think of ways to get more volunteers to turn out for weedouts. One solution could be to expand weedouts and other volunteer days to days other than Saturday.

8. New Business:

- a. Lake Park Strategic Planning: Phil Schultz. We would like to create a strategic planning process to bring in members' opinions of what they'd like to see LPF accomplish over time. The result would be a written plan to take to the County and funders.
- b. County Parks Budget: Phil Schultz. Deferred to a future meeting.
- c. Antiquarian Society grant: A \$2500 grant proposal was solicited. This would be a good match with the History Committee's programming. Due July 1 but is a short application.
- d. Musical Mondays and Wonderful Wednesdays 2010 concert schedule: Schedule and mailings have been completed.
- e. July 4th Celebration: Held on July 5th this year. LPF will sponsor a horse-drawn carriage. We need volunteers to staff a table. Will coordinate with the History Committee, which is also planning a table.
- f. Donor Plaque: Anne Booth. An oak leaf donor wall is proposed for large lifetime donors: a large oak leaf board with a small oak leaf for each donor. The total cost would be \$3000 (actual cost is \$4500, the sculptor will donate \$1500 in kind). The wall would be for donors giving \$1000 or more (we have about 15 of them right now, the quoted cost would cover 25 leaves, 40 can fit on the leaf). Steve Duback moved to go ahead with the project as long as the County approves, Katie West seconded, and the motion carried with no opposition.
9. Katie West moved to adjourn the meeting, Dennis Buettner seconded, and the motion carried without opposition. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57.