

FoSPB Monthly Meeting April 29, 2015; Eliot Tower, 3rd. Floor meeting room, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Attendees:

Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair
David Newman, Co-Chair
Marjorie Newman
Ian Nicol
Alan Bell
Jacob Brostoff, ONI
Jessy Ponce, PPS

Agenda:

The month(s) in review – Park update

- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Mondays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
 - o Continue to observe a numbers of homeless people and transients negatively impacting the park (sleeping on benches, trash – paper, bottles, food items, clothing)
- Foot Patrol Walk with rangers Angela and Asa on Fridays
- Prepared Safety Summit II
- Received list of neighborhood contacts from PPS (Alan Pendergrass)
- Met with PP&R planner to design fence for Lincoln Block plantings
- PPS report
 - o Since Jan 2015, alcohol (8) and controlled substance (7) abuse major reasons for exclusions
 - o 17 exclusions since January 2015
 - o 5 warnings since January 2015
 - o Major activity not covered after business hours of PPS (document trash in the morning)
 - o Phone calls of FoSPB help PPS with their job – provide better description of people

Active FoSPB Projects 2015 - Updates

- A-Board sign – FoSPB group intro during work events (**David**)
 - o Portland Parks Foundation approved funding
 - o Poster being produced by Portland Parks and Recreations
 - o A-sign to be available in mid-May
- Turf project (**Jo**) – Tools in University Park condo store room, Key with Eliot Tower concierge
 - o Regular events: every Tuesday at 9:00 - 11:00, meet in the center of the 1500 block between Market and Clay
 - o Walk-through of area with PPR Turf Manager several times
 - o Turf looks better than ever – different mix of seeds
 - o Next
 - Review with Professor from OSU planned for first half of the year
- Lincoln Block Part II - Fencing (**David, Marjorie**)
 - o PPR does not have objection for fencing
 - o Perimeter vs central fence – former might be preferred
 - o Consider temporary fence similar to turf park blocks
 - o Need to go through PPR process
 - Part I (initial proposal) completed and approved
 - Part II (detailed proposal) in process
 - o met with Bryan and Allan Schmidt yesterday to discuss the fence project

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- PPR favors a perimeter fence that would be a barrier to pets and people.
- Agreed that several considerations for the fence should be: durability, cost, access for maintenance of beds, no sharp points, vandalism proof, spare parts, low maintenance cost.
- Allan will work with Kevin the Horticulturist to come up with possible designs and get back to us in a week.
- Fundraising mechanism with Portland Parks Foundation
- Next
 - When design is complete, Part II of proposal will be approved
 - Fund raising program will be set up with Portland Parks Foundation based on design
- Park Visitor management plan 2015 (**Gunnar, David**)
 - Safety Summit II Objective: Improve safety and livability in the South Park Blocks for all to enjoy by increasing effectiveness of managing visitor behavior
 - Time: Friday, May 8, 3:00 – 5:00 pm
 - Location: Conference room at Portland 5 (Antoinette Hatfield Hall)
 - Reviewed and refined agenda (separate document)

Special Topic:

Facebook posting of park pictures

- Posting of safety and livability impacting observations in the park on FaceBook
- No, not at this time but create collection of pictures to use for surveys / petitions / flickr / tumblr
- Keep website and FaceBook site positive

PPR – Ranger Program report

- Report highlights an equity problem between West and East Portland and proposes the following to City Council
 - Allowing PP&R management more flexibility from historic commitments to patrol Forest Park and the Central Business District (CCBD). This may include reduced service levels at west side parks, when appropriate, in order to better serve parks east of the river.
 - Maintaining existing service level west of the river and allocating additional resources to PP&R to increase the capacity of the Ranger program to proactively serve parks east of the river.
 - A combination of options one and two
- Galina Burley submitted another budget after 3.11. city council meeting requesting 6 more rangers for Parks East of the Willamette
 - City council hearings next week

Other FoSPB project objectives for 2015

- Improve irrigation systems in all SPB (**Don McTaggart**)
 - Follow up with PP&R on opportunity as part of Bond Measure
 - DNA sent letter to city supporting PP&R budget including funding for SPB irrigation
- Member recruitment
 - Arlington Club – contact president and follow up
 - Added Portland5 in Q1 2015
 - Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2015 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan
 - Benson / Roosevelt condo buildings

2015 Accomplishments

- Meetings with PP&R – 2.27.

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- Garden work parties – 1.18., 2.21.
- Got approval to continue to work experimental turf plot – Feb 2015
- Green loop stakeholder interview and survey participation – 3.11.
- Stakeholder involvement – Portland 5, 2.18.

Communication

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSouthParkBlocks>
- Website: www.fospb.org

Action Item update (see below)

Upcoming Events

- Foot Patrols - Mon at 5:00 pm and Fri at 3:00 pm, meet at Rough Rider statue
- Turf Improvement - Tue at 9:00 - 11:00, meet in the center of the 1500 block between Market and Clay
- Walk with ONI / PPS
- Spring Garden Work Party – May
- Block summer party – July / August
- Graffiti Abatement Program – presentation by Victor – October

Future Topics

- FoSPB governance
- Business recruitment for Shemanski Park (**Gunnar**)
 - Approach Arlington Club
 - Include Brad Taylor (ONI)
- Middle Armrest for park benches
 - o Find resource to scope project
 - o Design armrests and submit formal Park Proposal to PPR
- SPB project ideas
 - o South Park Blocks improvement fund
 - o Nesting opportunities for raptors / bird houses
 - o Signage to enhance park experience
 - o Dog fountain
 - o Middle Armrest for park benches Q3 2014 – prove fundraising mechanism first
- Install Pet Stations
 - o Look at North-Park installation
 - PP&R did not like design – Commissioner Fritz favors pet owner responsibility vs. bag dispensers
 - Built by CleanScapes in North Park Blocks
 - Not the biggest problem – New fines for off leash and not picking up now enforced by Park Rangers
 - Needs funding / sponsors
- Event planning
 - o Social events in the park
 - o Stacey Tran of Cityscope is looking for public proposals for THE PRESENT IS ARTICULATE, a series of urban interventions, installations, and performances. Installations/performances would possibly be in South Park Blocks, permitted by PP&R.
- Determine projects and need for funding; make contact with potential local business partners including PAM, OHS, Safeway
- Vest replacement by T-Shirts
 - o Have business sponsoring T-Shirts
 - o Have business sponsor incentives

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Next Meetings:

Last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Eliot 3rd Floor Meeting Room (6.24., 7.29., 8.26)

Action Items

Detail	Update	Owner	Date	Status
Governance of FoSPB: Study other Friends groups and then decide on FoSPB Governance structure		Carole	5/28/2012	Open
Governance of FoSPB: Study other Friends groups and then decide on FoSPB Governance structure		Gunnar	5/28/2012	Open
Governance of FoSPB: Provide contact for ByLaws example		Mike Boyer	5/28/2012	Open
Unwanted bird feeding	Added link Audubon link to website http://audubonportland.org/files/brochures/feeding%20waterfowl.pdf	Gunnar	6.26.2013	Done 2.8.2015