

FoSPB Monthly Meeting August 26., 2015; Eliot Tower, 3rd. Floor meeting room, 7:00 PM to 8:20 PM

Attendees:

Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair
David Newman, Co-Chair
Marion McNamara
Jo Durand
Suzie Downing
Carole Barkley
Marjorie Newman
Ian Nicol
Jesse Ponce, PPS
Linda Hardie, South Park Square
Kay Dannen, Guest South Waterfront District
Peter Collins, Guest South Waterfront District

Agenda:

The month(s) in review – Park update

- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Mondays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
 - o Observing large groups of homeless people and transients negatively impacting the park (sleeping on benches, trash – paper, bottles, food items, clothing)
- Rose deadheading on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays at 9 am
- Foot Patrol Walk with rangers on Fridays
 - o Asa Arden moves on to a different assignment at Washington Park
 - o Thank you Asa for all your support of our group over the years
 - o Vincente Harrison is taking Asa's place with new energy, commitment, and ideas.
 - o New ranger strategy to increase coverage per area
- Portland Business Alliance campaign
 - o Friends (FoSPB email list) were asked to support Petition
- Washington Park Festival
 - o Several friends listened to the energizing Tizer Quartett
 - o Thank you Steve Pixley for reserving a premier spot for us and the thank you gift
- Smoking in the park
 - o Not all people receptive of new ordinance
 - o Cigarette butt count down
- Report of an assault of a neighbor of the South Park Square
 - o Perpetrator in jail
- PPS report
 - o Transient activity at Shemanski is main focus point – working on new strategies
 - o No other major issues observed
 - o Transient activities moved into North Park Blocks
 - o No smoking – reception 50/50
 - o Couch Park – no smoking sign on the benches

Special FoSPB Activities 2015

- Reviewed and revise FoSPB letter to mayor and city council (separate document)
 - o Collaborate with Friendly Streets
 - o Follow up meeting – Friday, 2:00 pm (**Gunnar**)
- PPR & FoSPB meeting

FoSPB Meeting Minutes
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- o September, Fri, 09.11., 11:00 am
- o Build on previous agenda
 - Send minutes draft to Jo, Marjorie / David for updates (Gunnar, 8.31.)
- o New topics
 - Event planning for SPB – concerts at Shemanski
 - Smoking ban update – no smoking sign on benches and more flyers

Active FoSPB Projects 2015 - Updates

- Parke Diem
 - o When: Saturday, 10.10., 9 am – 12 noon
 - o Where: South Park Blocks, meet at Rough Rider Statue
 - o What: Our group of volunteers will meet to support the following activities:
 - Mulch rose beds, tree bases and Lincoln Block plantings
 - Rake leaves - Dig weeds and clean tree bases in 1500 block
 - Paint bench legs
 - Power wash squares
 - Support of tools and material will be provided by Portland's Parks and Recreation's department.
 - o Who: 30 – 40 volunteers
 - o Main contacts Jo Durand / David Newman / Gunnar Sacher
 - o Tasks leading up to event
 - Advertisement of event (**Gunnar / Jo, August, September**)
 - Website registration open – invitation and reminder (**Gunnar / Jo, September**)
 - Flyer – hard and soft copy (**David / Jinny**)
 - Prioritize task list with Don, Kevin and Paul (**David, September**)
 - Recruit volunteers – ideas how to
 - Contact First Christian church – part of the original invitation
 - Handoff meeting to Jo / Marion – 9.9., 7:00 pm
 - o Tasks day of event
 - Contact on Parke Diem day: Marion McNamara / Jo Durand
 - Activity leads: Jo Durand, Marion McNamara, Renee Towers
 - Check-in – Jinny?
 - Greeting and assignment – Joe / Marion
 - Tools - Paul
 - o Status
 - Project submitted on PPR website and open for registration
 - Ensure registration is working (**Mattie, Gunnar**)
- 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 Took fence string down
 - o Water system broken – hand watering
 - o Turf group met with Jeremy Nelson on 6.23.2015 to review turf progress in 1500 block
 - o Started watering experimental plot 5 nights per week – need more volunteers / alternatives
 - o Next
 - Review turf options with Professor from OSU planned for September

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- Lincoln Block Part II - Fencing (**David, Marjorie**)
 - o PPR does not have objection for fencing
 - o Perimeter vs central fence – PPR and FoSPB agreed to center fence
 - o Consider temporary fence similar to turf park blocks – one idea is metal stakes and string on a portion of the new plantings
 - o Need to go through PPR process
 - Part I (initial proposal) completed and approved
 - Part II (detailed proposal) in process
 - Will need detailed cost estimate
 - o Met with Bryan and Allan Schmidt to discuss the fence project
 - PPT Maintenance Techs, Horticulturist and West Zone coordinator favor a center fence that would be a barrier to traffic across the beds
 - 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 and Bryan pushed design proposal back to FoSPB to come up with possible designs that will then be reviewed by Allan and the approval committee
 - Design for center fence input from Marjorie, Alan, and Carole was sent to Bryan
 - A Victorian fence design was accepted
 - Identify location of posts, root system, etc.
 - Decision of pre-fab or custom made fence
 - City to price the fence and then FoSPB to prepare for fund raising
 - o Fundraising mechanism with Portland Parks Foundation
 - o Next
 - When design and cost estimate will be complete then 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**)
 - o Visitor Management Plan highlights
 - Understand sentiment in the neighborhood
 - Conduct survey (**FoSPB**)
 - Strengthen services in the park
 - Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (**Galina**)
 - Crime prevention through environmental design (**Jacob, Galina**)
 - Advocacy
 - Reach out to mayor and commissioners to advocate (**David, Gunnar, August**)
 - Ordinances and their enforcement
 - Coverage analysis (**PPR, PPS**)
 - What to do after park closure and during kids presence (**PPS, PPR**)
 - Improved signage
 - Call in issues to create log of activities / build statistics
 - o Safety Summit III – November 2015

Other FoSPB project objectives for 2015

- Improve irrigation systems in all SPB (**Don McTaggart**)
 - o Follow up with PP&R on opportunity as part of Bond Measure
 - o DNA sent letter to city supporting PP&R budget including funding for SPB irrigation
- Member recruitment

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- o Arlington Club – contact president and follow up
- o Added Portland5 in Q1 2015
- o Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2015 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan
- o Benson / Roosevelt condo buildings

2015 Accomplishments

- Meetings with PP&R – 2.27., 6.26.
- 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.
- Safety Summit II – 5.8.
- A-boards and signs obtained, May 2015
- Parke Diem 2015 – project submitted
- Supported Portland Business Alliance campaign – August 2015
- Attended Washington Park Festival concert – August 2015
- Connected with visitors from Pearl and South Waterfront District interested in our work

Communication

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

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
- Parke Diem – October 9.10.
- Holiday Party – 12.9.
- Graffiti Abatement Program – presentation by Victor – January

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
- Install Pet Stations / Dog Fountain
 - 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

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- 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

Next Meetings:

Last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Eliot 3rd Floor Meeting Room (10.28., 12.9. – Holiday Party, 1.27.)

Action Items

Detail	Update	Owner	Date	Status
Advocacy	Old Town / China Town started campaign to report to City Council in public comment session – connect with FoSPB	Jacob B	9.27.	
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			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