

FoSPB Monthly Meeting January 29, 2014 Eliot meeting room 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Attendees:

Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair
Alan Bell
Ian Nicol
Sally MaGuire
Marion McNamara
Jo Durand
Elka Grisham
Carol Barkley
Bob Davis
Jinny Davis
Mike Caputo
Asa Arden, Ranger
Mike Boyer, ONI
Mack Holland, Park Lead, PPS

Agenda:

- *The month(s) in review*
 - Weekly Foot Patrol – 6:00 pm on Mondays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
 - Gardening events – will resume regularly in Spring
 - Roses will be cut back further in Feb before spring growth starts
 - Rose deadheading is on hiatus until spring
 - Transitional Youth
 - Sent up a follow letter to Director Mike Abbate attaching the FoSPB position on 11.8.
 - No response has been received
 - Provided comments for City's State and Federal legislative agenda
 - Suggested Smoke-free parks and to act on sit-lie ordinance
 - Holiday Party – 12.4., 33+ participants
 - PPS was the sponsor of the event
 - Thank you PPS!
 - Garden Work Party – Sa, 12.21., 9:00 am
 - PPR Public Budget Meeting – We, 1.8.
 - Meeting objectives
 - Explain PP&R financial position
 - 6.1 M USD gap in comparison to 2010 USDs
 - Some additional General Fund money will be available to PPR in 2014
 - Explain impact of budget decisions for past five years
 - roughly 20% General Fund Discretionary Reductions in past 5 years
 - Identify priority programs (long-term) - Feedback on behalf of FoSPB

- Maintain existing infrastructure and programs before entertaining new ambitious projects
- Work with volunteers such as Friends groups to offset budget cuts whenever possible
- Consider fund raising campaigns to capture lost dollars
- Ranger Meeting – Thu, 1.9.
 - Update on Ranger program including key issue / challenges
 - Side walk jurisdiction and park boundary expansion – park specific issue
 - Homeless camping issues with larger camps on the East side of town than on the West side of town
 - Review of Ranger Evaluation model
 - Condition – perception – intervention
 - Contemplating survey of park users
 - Review of report outline and data
 - Data suggest that Ranger program is more effective than previous program
 - South Park Blocks – second most visited park by Rangers and PPS after Waterfront / South Waterfront
 - Next meeting
 - Continued data analysis
 - Prepare report for commissioner
- Park update
 - Transitional Youth Dinners
 - Dinners continue one day per week in January (Monday)
 - ONI – Mike Boyer
 - Big increase in Heroin dealing
 - Report drug trading activities – send information to Mike Boyer directly (Michael.Boyer@portlandoregon.gov)
 - Side-walk management plan update
 - Originally Mayor wanted to make it a priority of his tenure
 - However, will not be a priority for 2014
 - Current ordinance is ineffective in many people’s eyes
 - City could improve on the ordinance if they chose to
 - Mike is looking for citizen input to provide to city council
 - Stalled in last year’s legislative session
 - Discussed as an legislative agenda topic for 2015
 - Simple tool to maintain sidewalks
 - Not just a downtown issue
 - It is a citywide issue
 - PPS – Mack
 - Increase of Heroin overdoses in loos in downtown parks
 - PPS dispatch line, Park Supervisor – 503.710.7133 (4 pm to midnight)
 - Main dispatch - 503.710.8004 (24 hours)
 - Ranger – Asa
 - Few dog issues
 - Started citing people for running their dog offleash
 - Only one off leash citation in SPB
 - Few alcohol and drug occurrences and citations
 - Marihuana issues are up in the park

- No camping issues
- Special Topics
 - Transitional Youth
 - Finalizing Good Neighborhood Agreement to be signed during meeting on 2.7.2014
 - First draft of permit available 1.31. to be discussed at meeting on 2.7.
 - Two primary locations considered for TTY use – Chapman Square or Bryant Park
 - Will not continue at Shemanski Square
 - Turf project
 - Another neighbor of the South Park Blocks raised a concern about the conditions of the turf
 - Jo Durand sent letter to Don McTaggart on 1.17. to offer help in improving state of turf
 - Proposal to provide labor in exchange for tools stored at University Park Condominiums
 - Not an easy problem to solve but things can be done to improve the situation
 - Sidewalk widening to allow for truck usage
 - Enlarge circumference of bark dust around trees to reduce grassy areas
 - Irrigation systems improvements to continue
 - 4 volunteers currently interested in project
 - Business recruiting for Shemanski Park
 - Elka Griaaham and Gunnar Sacher met with Asa Arden to create a plan, December 2013
 - Elka Grisham composed and Gunnar Sacher sent a letter to potential cart vendors, January 2014
 - One cart vendor already responded positively, will follow up with others, January / February
(Elka, Gunnar)
 - Meet with interested cart vendors **(Elka, Gunnar, Asa, February / March)**
 - Additional vendor list **(Asa)**
 - Agenda for meeting with PPR on Friday, 2.21., at 10:00 am
 - Transitional Youth update
 - Park Ranger presence, staffing
 - SPB Management Plan - Trees, plantings, turf, irrigation - plan ready to go when PP&R funds become available
 - Projects
 - Business recruiting for Shemanski Square
 - Signage refresh - skateboarding, littering, dogs etc. **(Bryan, Asa)**
 - Middle Armrest for park benches – estimate **(Bryan)**
 - Turf improvements
 - Action Items from previous meetings
 - Labels for rose varieties (Paul, Terri)
 - Improve irrigation system or options in all of SPB **(Don McTaggart)**
 - Light posts need attention **(Terry)**
 - Park Patrol incident
 - Incident with drug addict and people drinking / urinating in SPB during Monday (holiday) patrol
 - Discussion
 - What is a timely response
 - What can we expect when calling somebody
 - Do not call central precinct because they are not a dispatch center
 - Call 911 when life is in danger
 - Parks is working on an all-day phone hotline
 - Go-to phone number for park issues
 - FoSPB members commented that it would be nice to connect to PPS or Ranger during foot patrol time

- Review triage list and phone numbers to call (**Mike, Gunnar**)
- 2014 FoSPB project objectives - Update
 1. Label for rose varieties in the rose beds
 - Secured labels but need to identify varieties (**Paul, Terri**)
 2. Improve irrigation systems in all SPB (Don McTaggart)
 - PP&R to identify opportunities
 3. Business recruitment for Shemanski Park (**Elka, Gunnar**)
 - Recruit businesses
 - Approach Arlington Club
 4. Funding – register Parks Foundation or Neighbors West/Northwest to act as fiscal agent (**Marjorie**)
 - Identify project to raise funding – Irrigation upgrade, bench armrests – PP&R will provide estimated costs and project scopes
 - Columbia Sportswear incentive program
 5. Reduce skate boarding traffic
 - Update stickers (Bryan, Asa)
 6. Loo – add sticker what number to call for issues
 - Update stickers (Bryan)
 7. Middle Armrest for park benches
 - PP&R to provide scope and cost estimate for
 9. Advertisement / Promotion (**Alan, Marjorie**)
 - Start raise money
 - Prepare proposal and submit to PP&R (two step process)
 - First step: Write one pager (**Alan, Marjorie, Carole**)
 - Park Proposal Process: <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/46373>
 - Application deadline: Fall
 - Brian A to help with application
 10. Member recruitment
 - Arlington Club – contact president, need to follow up
- 2013 Accomplishments
 - Member recruitment – PP&R Spring Guide, National Night Out
 - Card with important phone numbers for distribution – Back of FoSPB cards
 - Discussed the installation of cigarette trash containers with PP&R
 - Portland Streetcar installed trash container at Streetcar stop on SW Market in SPB
 - PBOT agreed to clean SW Park and SW 9th streets along SBP south of SW Jefferson
 - Meetings with PP&R – Spring, Fall
 - Smoking ban in PSU SPB's supported by FoSPB was endorsed by DNA – PSU Smoke free 2016
 - Member recruitment
 - University Park – three new contacts
- Communication
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSouthParkBlocks>
 - Website: www.fospb.org
- Action Item update (see below)
- Upcoming Events
 - Foot Patrols - Mo at 5:00 pm (change for the Winter months) and Fri at 3:00 pm;
 - PPS training, February / March

- Future Topics
 1. Support smoking ban for Portland Parks once on the agenda of PPR
 2. Install Pet Stations
 - 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
 3. WiFi In the Park - Establish WiFi hot spots in the South Park Blocks
 - Low priority for now
 - Cost issue – look for business support
 - Most people use smart phones
 - Move to future topics / opportunities
 4. Event planning
 - Social events in the park
 - 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.
 5. Fundraising and fund needs
 6. Determine projects and need for funding; make contact with potential local business partners including PAM, OHS, Safeway
 7. Create turf maintenance group
 8. Vest replacement by T-Shirts
 - Have business sponsoring T-Shirts
 - Have business sponsor incentives

Next Meetings:

Last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Eliot 3rd Floor Meeting Room (2.26., 3.26., 4.30. 5.28., 6.25.)

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 |
| Membership solicitation - University Place | | Bob | 5/28/2012 | Open |
| Tree Cutting | What happens with cut wood? What is replacement plan? | David | 7/31/2012 | Open |
| Event sponsoring | What is the procedure for FoSPB | David / Gunnar | 8.29.2012 | Open |
| Unwanted bird feeding | Add Audubon link to website and create some printouts | Gunnar | 6.26.2013 | |