

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

**Attendees:**

David Newman, Co-Chair  
Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair  
Suzie Downing  
Marjorie Newman  
Ian Nicol  
Tyler George, PPS

**Agenda:**

Park update

- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Tuesdays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
- Turf Improvement - Tue 9:00 - 11:00
- Rose deadheading - 9 AM Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
- Rose Festival rose bed judging – 6.5.
- FoSPB / PPR meeting - 6.17. – see separate minutes
- 2016 Rose Garden Award Ceremony – 6.21.
  - o won first prize in two categories: Commercial Rose Gardens and Plantings, Public Agency Section
  - o Thank you Jinny, Suzie, and Kevin representing FoSPB and PPR at the ceremony
  - o Prize:
    - \$75 gift certificate from the Rose Garden gift shop
      - What to get? jewelry, rose scented soaps, small wind chimes, rose hip jelly, kids t-shirts, small garden art
    - o Something eatable
  - Plaque that says that "this garden won the Royal Rosarian rose garden contest." It is welded on a metal stake
- Piano in the Park at Shemanski or at Peace Chant Block
  - o Piano.Push.Play – good idea: yes
  - o Incorporate piano into the Wednesday market
  - o FoSPB supports placing the piano at Shemanski over Peace Chant Block
- Park Rangers
  - o Patrol hours down by 50%
    - Vacancies of two were filled but have not been deployed downtown until now
    - 4 rangers now in place (two teams - 7 am – 3:30 pm, 8 am – 4:30 pm)
  - o Calls for service up by 100%
  - o Nuisance abatements up even with shortened staff
    - Will decrease with increased staffing
  - o Shemanski square crowd not very compliant
  - o Re-establish meet up on Fridays, 3 pm
  - o Coordinate ranger patrol, mounted patrol, PPI, FoSPB foot patrol
    - Mounted patrol might not be in place anymore with the latest budget
    - Security personal from businesses
    - Determine date (**David, Gunnar**)
- PPS report
  - o Shemanski Block crowd not compliant
  - o 90% of the crowd has not been seen in the winter – mid 20s to mid 30s
  - o SPB still looks better than NPB - garbage

Special FoSPB Activities 2016

- New Broadway Tower Building and sponsoring updates for SPB block adjacent to property
  - o Brian Owendoff (BMO Commercial Real Estate LLC) to lead development of Broadway Tower
    - providing \$375,000 to Parks Foundation so a master plan for South Park Blocks can be created
    - Question about historic designation related in master plan to CC2035 and Green Loop
  - o Kia Selly head of property & asset management for Parks & Recreation will lead park initiative to implement “public good”, Bret Horner PP&R Planning Manger testified
  - o Follow up with Brian Owendoff in June (**Gunnar**)
  - o Broadway Tower public benefit to SPB defined
  - o How can FoSPB participate in the discussion lead by PPR – Bret Horner (**Gunnar**)
- Projects coming from Behavioral changes through environment design
  - o Move benches in Clay and Columbia Park Blocks (possible 2016 FoSPB project)
    - Replace destroyed benches / reconfiguration
    - Control population close to Child Development center
  - o Understand why PPR and who in PPR is not supportive of the idea (**Gunnar**)
    - Management decision beyond Bryan / Vincente
    - Restarted discussion with Bryan
    - Workorder for new benches in places – when available (**Bryan**)
    - Set up a meeting with Galina / Vincente, Bryan, CDC (**Gunnar**)
  - o Park at Child Development Center when starting patrol (**Vincente**)
  - o Use sprinklers during midday in specific – concern of vandalism, coordinate with park rangers (**Vincente, Kevin, Bryan**)
  - o Child Development Center – follow up with Patrick Earnest (**David / Gunnar**)
    - Temporary fencing - can include cones
    - Additional signage
      - 1000 feet from school no drugs or alcohol - day care is not an official school
  - o Lighting in and around loo (PPR)
    - Improve outside lighting – LED in pole (**Robin**)
    - Send Robin a proposal (**David**)
  - o Program activities in Shemanski – expedited permitting
- Parke Diem
  - o When: October 15, 2016, 9 am – 12 pm
  - o Planning for 30 – 40 people
  - o Contact: Gunnar
  - o Where: project depending – need help from Kevin Horning
    - Bulb planting – crocus
    - Didn't do very well because of grass management
    - Mulching - can prevent weed control, preferred in Spring
    - Bench maintenance / painting, non-smoking signs for benches
    - Southernmost plant bed in front of PAM
- Better Block PDX - Connect North and South Park Blocks Aug 20.
  - o Need volunteers to help organize and to contact businesses, organizations to participate in SPB
  - o Need ideas for events from individuals, groups, and organizations

- Send out email alerting people on FoSPB email list about the event and connect them with the organizer (**David**)

Project Update

- Turf project (**Jo / David**) – Tools in University Park condo store room, Key with Eliot Tower concierge
  - Regular events: every Tuesday at 9:00 - 11:00, meet in the center of the 1500 block between Market and Clay
  - Put up more protective fencing
  - Will need some more signs (**Jeremy**)
  - String fences up in 1300 block and two in Lincoln blocks
  - Water system still broken in parts even though some repair has happened
  - Would like to recruit more people
  - Planning questions
  - Hot / dry spell irrigation
    - Able to hand water one quadrant in the heat twice in the morning
    - Turn on water more often - midnight, 5 am (new) - connect with David on Tuesday to point out leaks (**Robin**)
  - Repeat of last Fall's seeding of Winter rye / tall fescue with spring fertilizer, slice seed and aeration
  - Next
    - Review turf options with Professor from OSU planned
    - Create a turf maintenance plan based on experience collected in 2014 / 2015 / 2016
      - Discuss alternative options to grass if needed in 2016
      - Develop plan with Jeremy for 2016 (**Jo, Marion, David, Jeremy, Don**)
        - Capture seeds and fertilizer planned for budgeting reason
        - Track month activities, overlay of weather
        - Send example of a work plan (**Astrid / Gunnar**)
          - Rachel Felice to replace Astrid on 7.11.
- Lincoln Block Part II - Fencing (**David, Marjorie**)
  - Need to go through PPR process
    - Part I (initial proposal) completed and approved
    - Part II (detailed proposal) in process
      - Cost estimates obtained – USD 5,000 to 10,000
      - Part II submitted Feb 5 to Ryan
  - FoSPB proposed center fence design, which was accepted by PPR
    - A Victorian fence design was accepted
    - Decision of pre-fab or custom made fence
  - Fundraising mechanism with Portland Parks Foundation
  - Next
    - Proposal review and approval / rejection by PP&R (**Ryan Sablan, Bryan, July**)
      - Everybody is supportive of project
      - Ryan Sablan (who manages Park Project Proposal program) and Bryan to set up on-site meeting to review details of proposal with some additional PP&R staff, who have not been involved to update them and determine next steps (**Ryan, Bryan, July**)
        - FoSPB to provide details on the bids (**David**)
        - What is missing to close step

- o What is decision time frame
  - FoSPB needs design approval as it determines the budget and fundraising goal
- Prepare for fund raising (**Marjorie**)
  - Fund raising program will be set up with Portland Parks Foundation based on design
  - Parks Foundation needs approval from PP&R to start fundraising effort
- Park Visitor management 2016 – Planned activities (**Gunnar, David**)
  - o Understand sentiment in the neighborhood
    - Conduct survey (**PSU / FoSPB**)
  - o Call in issues to create log of activities / build statistics
  - o Collect incident data from PPS and Ranger Program for Q2 2016 (**Gunnar**)
  - o Little Safety Summit – Fall 2016
  - o Safety Summit – Spring 2017

#### Future FoSPB project objectives

- 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
  - o Arlington Club – contact president and follow up
  - o Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2016 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan
  - o Benson / Roosevelt condo buildings

#### 2016 Accomplishments

- Garden work parties – 2.27., 4.10.
- Little Safety Summit II - 2.11.
- Safety Summit III - 4.29
- FoSPB / PPR meeting - 2.26., 6.17.
- Neighborhood meeting with leadership of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church – 2.24.
- 2016 Rose Garden Award Ceremony – won first prize in two categories: Commercial Rose Gardens and Plantings, Public Agency Section - 6.21.

#### Communication

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSouthParkBlocks>
  - o Investigate building out FoSPB Facebook site (**Carole, Marjorie**)
- Website: [www.fospb.org](http://www.fospb.org)
  - o Will maintain domains for another two years

#### 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
- Remaining Meetings 2016
  - o Email correspondence with core member list if needed
    - Build core email list (**Gunnar**)
  - o Fun Summer get-together – Washington Park concert
    - Contact Steve P (**David**)
  - o Little Safety Summit – Fall 2016
  - o Fun Winter get-together
  - o Safety Summit – Spring 2017

- Remaining projects 2016
  - o Better Block PDX - Oregon Walk - August 20 - Looking for ideas and volunteers
  - o National Night Out - August 5
  - o Parke Diem – October 15
  - o Spring – Gardening Event
  - o Fall – Gardening Event
  - o Rose Pruning – 1 Event
  - o Fence – Fundraising
  - o Turf and other projects with Church volunteers
  - o Recruitment for new active members
    - Use Park’s Foundation website
  - o Determine dates (**David, Gunnar**)

Future Topics

- FoSPB governance
- Business recruitment for Shemanski Park (**Gunnar**)
  - o Approach Arlington Club
  - o 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
- Improve signage
  - o Add no-smoking signs to benches or larger signs on light posts
- 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
  - 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Meeting Room 8.24., 9.28. - TBD, 10.26., 12.7.

**Action Items**

Detail	Update	Owner	Date	Status
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
Smoking	Advocate for more signs but correctly sized  No smoking signs from benches were removed by unknown	David / Gunnar	10.28.2015	In Progress