

FoSPB Monthly Meeting May 25., 2015; Eliot Tower, 3rd. Floor meeting room, 7:00 PM to 8:10 PM

Attendees:

David Newman, Co-Chair
Suzie Downing
Marjorie Newman
Carole Barkley
Jo Duran
Linda Hardie
Suzanne Evers
Jacob Brostoff, ONI
Tyler George, PPS

Agenda:

Park update

- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Tuesdays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
 - o Only a few Friday patrols
- Turf Improvement - Tue 9:00 - 11:00
- Rose deadheading - 9 AM Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday - Rose Festival rose bed judging June 5
- Sent follow-up letter to mayor and city council concerning safety and camping in and around SPB
- Safety Summit III (see separate minutes), 4.29.
- Rangers have been more evident in the Park in recent weeks
- PPS report
 - o User population up in the park
 - o Large skateboarder group has not been in park for a month
 - o Portland Police Bureau using federal grant money for community policing - more time in park

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
 - Contacted Park’s and Recreations’ (Astrid) – needs follow up at PP&R meeting (**Gunnar / David**)
 - o Follow up with Brian Owendoff in June (**Gunnar**)
- Projects coming from Behavioral changes through environment design
 - o Move benches in Clay and Columbia Park Blocks (2016 FoSPB project)
 - Replace destroyed benches / reconfiguration
 - Control population close to Child Development center
 - Send email and follow up note including pictures to Astrid - Bryan will follow up
 - Will need more discussion at next PP&R meeting (**Gunnar / David**)
 - 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 (**Don**)
 - Send Don a proposal (**David**)
 - o Program activities in Shemanski – expedited permitting

- FoSPB / PPR meeting, 6.17., 11:00 – 12:30, Portland Bldg, 13th. Floor, Parks Conf Rm.
 - o Web site/communication help
 - o Scheduling PP&R events in SPB - schedule for summer 2016 is out no events scheduled in SPB
 - o No smoking signage
 - o Parks bond follow up and Broadway Tower public benefit to SPB defined
- Parke Diem
 - o Start preparation at June (6.29.) meeting
- Better Block PDX - Connect North and South Park Blocks Aug 20.
 - > Need volunteers to help organize and to contact businesses, organizations to participate
 - > Need ideas for events from individuals, groups, and organizations

Project Update

- Turf project (**Jo / David**) – 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 part of 1500 lock; added string fence in 1300 block and two in Lincoln block
 - o Over seeding will be done on bare spots, extra watering
 - o Winter rye with spring fertilizer, slice seed and aeration has been very effective
 - o Water system broken
 - o Would like to recruit more people
 - o 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**)
 - Seeds and fertilizer planned for budgeting reason
 - Track month activities, overlay of weather
 - Send example of a work plan (**Astrid**)
- Lincoln Block Part II - Fencing (**David, Marjorie**)
 - o 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
 - o FoSPB proposed center fence design, which was accepted by PPR
 - A Victorian fence design was accepted
 - Decision of pre-fab or custom made fence
 - o Fundraising mechanism with Portland Parks Foundation
 - o Next
 - Proposal review and approval / rejection by PP&R (**Ryan Sablan**)
 - Everybody is supportive of project
 - What is decision time frame (**Bryan**) (**David will check**)
 - 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 Review Safety summit outcome and update activity list (**Gunnar**)

- Call in issues to create log of activities / build statistics
- Collect incident data from PPS and Ranger Program for Q2 2016 (**Gunnar**)

Future FoSPB project objectives

- 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
 - Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2016 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan
 - 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.
- Neighborhood meeting with leadership of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church – 2.24.
- SPB rose beds entered in Rose Festival competition - gardening and rose maintenance

Communication

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSouthParkBlocks>
 - Main communication tool going forward
- Website: www.fospb.org
 - Will take down website
 - Will maintain domains for another two years
 - Investigate building out FoSPB Facebook site (**Carole, Marjorie**)

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
 - Email correspondence with core member list if needed
 - Build core email list (**Gunnar**)
 - Safety Summits – 1
 - Fun Summer get-together – Washington Park concert
 - Fun Winter get-together
- Remaining projects 2016
 - Better Block PDX - Oregon Walk - August 20 - Looking for ideas and volunteers
 - National Night Out - August 5
 - Parke Diem – October 14 & 15
 - Spring – Gardening Event
 - Fall – Gardening Event
 - Rose Pruning – 1 Event
 - Fence – Fundraising
 - Turf and other projects with Church volunteers
 - Recruitment for new active members
 - Use Park's Foundation website
 - Determine dates (**David, Gunnar**)

Future Topics

- FoSPB governance
- Business recruitment for Shemanski Park (**Gunnar**)
 - Approach Arlington Club

- Include Brad Taylor (ONI)
- Middle Armrest for park benches
 - Find resource to scope project
 - Design armrests and submit formal Park Proposal to PPR
- Improve signage
 - Add no-smoking signs to benches or larger signs on light posts
- SPB project ideas
 - South Park Blocks improvement fund
 - Nesting opportunities for raptors / bird houses
 - Signage to enhance park experience
- Install Pet Stations / Dog Fountain
 - 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
 - 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.
- Determine projects and need for funding; make contact with potential local business partners including PAM, OHS, Safeway
- 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 **6.29.** - **yes**, **7.27.** - **no**, NEW 8.24., 9.28., 10.26