

FoSPB Monthly Meeting October 29, 2014 Eliot meeting room 7:00 PM to 8:35 PM

Attendees:

David Newman, Co-Chair
Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair
Jo Durand
Alan Bell
Ian Nicol
Suzie Downing
Marjorie Newman
Suzanne Evers
Brad Taylor, ONI
Daniel LaForce, First Christian Church
Barbara Semenza, Special Guest from Pearl District

Agenda:

The month(s) in review

- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Mondays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
 - o Continue to observe large numbers of homeless people and transients negatively impacting the park (sleeping on benches, camping, trash – paper, bottles, food items, clothing, defecation)
- Deadheading roses – one day a week
- Foot Patrol Walk with rangers Angela and Sam – 10.10.2014
- Parke Diem – Improved plantings and labeling in the Lincoln Block – 10.11.2014
 - o 40+ participants
 - o Completed project that started with fundraising and finished with planting
 - o Support by PPR and Portland Parks Foundation
 - o Prepare a new project proactively for next year (add to list of projects)
- FoSPB / PPR meeting – 10.17.
 - o See separate meeting minutes
 - o Action items
 - Irrigation project is on list – letter could help (**FoSPB**)
 - Address to Mike Abatte, cc: Terri, Bryan
 - Seed quality – learn from PSU
 - Organize discussion with PSU (**Jo**)

Park update

- PPS – Clay, activity summary
 - o Review statistics of demographic usage of the park (**Clay**)
- Park Rangers – Asa Arden, activity summary
 - o See separate meeting minutes with PPR
- ONI – Brad A. Taylor
 - o Brad A. Taylor will be responsible for community building (foot patrol support, livability).
 - o Jacob Brostoff – problem solver on community building
 - o Crime prevention background
 - o Occupy negative space and replace with positive traffic
 - o List of shelters in the neighborhoods – call 211, Rose City guide booklet

Special Topics

- Graffiti Abatement Program – presentation by Denis / Victor

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- o Take info (PDXReporter) to aiding investigation to train for graffiti removal
- o Ask DA for resource to remove slap tags
- o Reschedule presentation for January (**Gunnar**)
- A-Board sign – FoSPB group intro during work events (**David**)
 - o Got names from sign companies
 - o PPR would fund production of the sign
 - o FoSPB to fund the sign board
 - o Put pocket on the sign with business cards
- Holiday Party 2015 / Year-End get-together
 - o When – 12.10., 6:30 pm – 8 pm (**Gunnar**)
 - o Where – St James, Museum Place (**Gunnar**)
 - Funding – approach PPS (**Gunnar**)
 - Think about having special prices
 - Who – **Marjorie / Elka / Suzie / Jinny**
- First Christian Church volunteer project
 - o Daniel La Force would like to set up a park project for Church volunteers Sunday January 18., 2015

Special Projects - Updates

- 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 Moved from worst quadrant in worst block to best quadrant in the worst block
 - o Sent a note to PSU to invite for a meeting to see what they do differently
 - November / December meeting to implement in Sprint 2015
- Fundraising (**Marjorie**)
 - o Project: Improved plantings and labeling in the Lincoln block. – Complete
 - o Project: Fencing – to be started
 - PPR does not have objection for fencing
 - Perimeter vs central fence – former might be preferred
 - Consider temporary fence similar to turf park blocks
 - PPR not very supportive of it
 - Need to go through PPR process
 - Submit 1 page proposal first to be reviewed by Bryan Aptekar (**David**)
 - Consider reaching out to Larry from Urban Forestry
 - o Fundraising mechanism Portland Parks Foundation
 - o Final fundraising update:
 - Received invoice for plants – USD 900
 - Additional plants to be purchased by Spring – USD 200
 - Remaining funds – USD 1,100
 - Write letter to donors (**Marjorie, Alan, Carole**)
- Park Visitor management plan 2015 (**Gunnar, David**)
 - o Objective: Preserve and improve cultural and historic value of the South Park Blocks for all to enjoy
 - o Multi-pronged approach
 - Organize separate meeting to talk about a plan (**Gunnar, December**)
 - Understand sentiment in the neighborhood
 - Petition on change.org
 - Reach out to mayor / commissioner / businesses / churches
 - Collect data from PPS and Park Ranger program

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- Strengthen services in the park
 - Reach out to PPS and Parks Security to discuss opportunities to address the issues
 - Crime prevention through environmental design (Jacob, Galina)
 - Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (Galina)
- Organize Safety Summit II – February 2015
- Reach out to Commissioner Fritz to discuss concerns – letter and/or meeting
- Reach out to mayor to advocate for walking beats (foot patrol) – letter and/or meeting

FoSPB project objectives for 2014 – Update

- Improve irrigation systems in all SPB (**Don McTaggart**)
 - o PP&R to identify opportunities
- Advertisement / Promotion (**Alan, Marjorie**)
 - o 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
- Member recruitment
 - o Arlington Club – contact president, need to follow up
 - o Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2014 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan

2014 Accomplishments

- Meetings with PP&R – 2.21., 10.17.
- Garden work parties – 2.22., 3.15., 4.19., 4.26., 10.11.
- Started a turf maintenance Friends group
- Transitional Youth activities moved from SPB – June 2014
- Helped to improve signage funded by PP&R – July 2014
- Registered FoSPB with Parks Foundation to act as fiscal agent – June / July 2014
- Fundraising for Lincoln Blocks – \$2,544.80 – August / September 2014
- Participated at National Night Out – August 2014
- Enjoyed two concerts at Washington Park – August 2014
- Facilitated labeling for rose varieties in the rose beds – Summer 2014
- Joint foot patrol with park rangers – October 2014
- Parke Diem – Improved plantings and labeling in the Lincoln Block – October 2014

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
- Rose Deadheading – mostly complete for the year
- Turf Improvement - Tue at 9:00 - 11:00, meet in the center of the 1500 block between Market and Clay
- Walk with ONI / PPS – October / November / December
- Year-End get-together (12.10.)
- Meeting with PPR – 2.27., 10:00 am

Future Topics

- 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
- Support smoking ban for Portland Parks once on the agenda of PPR
- 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

Next Meetings:

Year-End-Party – 12.10. St. James Church or Museum’s Place

Last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Eliot 3rd Floor Meeting Room (1.28., 2.25., 3.25., 4.29.)

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	4 people from University Place joined FoSPB	Bob	5/28/2012	Closed 2/26/2014
Event sponsoring	Discussed at PPR meeting	David / Gunnar	8.29.2012	Closed 5/9/2014
Unwanted bird feeding	Add Audubon link to website and create some printouts	Gunnar	6.26.2013	Open
Emergency contact numbers	Review triage list and phone numbers to call	Mike B, Gunnar	1.29.2014	Closed 6/25/2014
Phone tree	Send updated phone tree in electronic format	Art H.	6.25.2014	Closed 6.25.2014