

**FoSPB Monthly Meeting October 28., 2015; Eliot Tower, 3rd. Floor meeting room, 7:00 PM to 7:55 PM**

**Attendees:**

Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair  
Jo Durand  
Carole Beauclerk  
Sandy Koteen  
Suzie Downing  
Rita Inoway  
Nacy Catlin  
Ian Nicol  
Jesse Ponce, PPS

**Agenda:**

The month(s) in review – Park update

- PPR & FoSPB meeting, 09.11.
- Sent FoSPB letter to mayor and city council voicing concerns about SPB
  - o Discussed concerns with Chad E. Stover, Livability Project Manager, Office of Mayor Charlie Hales
  - o Invited Chad to the Little Safety Summit at City Hall in November
- Parke Diem event, 10.10.
  - o Thank you Jo and Marion for providing the leadership to make this even a huge success
  - o 53 participants – coped with registration issues
    - 10 people from landscape architect firm
  - o Focus on Lincoln block and tree mulching
    - Distribute mulch better between the different working areas
  - o Follow up with volunteers on joining the FoSPB email list (**David**)
    - Drop of list of participants (**Jo**)
- Weekly Foot Patrol – 5:00 pm on Mondays and 3:00 pm on Fridays
  - o Foot patrols attendance has declined – sent out email reminder of patrol times
  - o Continue to observe 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
  - o First pruning of the roses in November (**David**)
- Smoking in the park
  - o No smoking signs installed in 1500 block to understand impact on smoking ban by using butt count as an indicator
  - o Advocate for more signs but correctly sized (**David / Gunnar**)
  - o No difference observed when comparing butt count before and after installation of signage
- PPS report
  - o PPS observes more compliance but admits people ignore the ordinance
    - PPS doesn't mention the no smoking ordinance anymore per guidance from PPR as communicated by Michelle
  - o Large amount of homeless people at Shemanski part of the park (change per PPS)
  - o Really busy in rest of the downtown parks
    - 143% more exclusions
    - 7 arrests in Ankeny park just in the last weeks
    - Camping is a big issue at Waterfront Park
  - o Colder weather brought a change in number of homeless people from all over the west coast (Alaska to California)

Special FoSPB Activities 2015

- Little Safety Summit
  - o When: 11.13., 11:00 – 12:30
  - o Where: City Hall, 2nd. floor, Pettygrove Room
  - o Agenda
    - Park status with focus on Summer 2015
    - Ordinances and their enforcement
      - Coverage analysis (**PPR, PPS**)
      - What to do after park closure and during kids presence (**PPS, PPR**)
    - Strengthen services in the park
      - Develop metrics for adequate park coverage by rangers (**Galina**)
      - Crime prevention through environmental design (**Jacob, Galina**)
    - Conclusions and next steps
- Holiday Party 2015 / Year-End get-together
  - o When – 12.9., 6:30 pm – 8 pm (**Gunnar**)
  - o Where – St James, Museum Place, Portland 5, others (**Gunnar**)
  - o Who – ensure that we invite Parke Diem Participants
  - o Contact Dennis for St James (**Nancy / Gunnar**)
  - o Funding – approach PPS (**Gunnar**)
  - o Think about having special prices (**Marjorie / Jinny**)
  - o Recognize Paul P’s contribution as he might retire at the end of the year (**David / Gunnar**)
  - o Organizing leads - Who – **Marjorie / Elka / Suzie / Jinny**
- First Christian Church – Work party, 1.17.2016
  - o Audrey Batchter , First Christian Church, contacted FoSPB to ask for help organizing another work event
  - o Don confirmed date
  - o Discuss more detail in December

Active FoSPB Projects 2015 - 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 Took fence string down
  - o Water system broken
  - o Completed watering for this year
  - o Observed more leave removal as of late
  - o Will plant winter rye grass seeds after leave removal and lime the soil (Jeremy)
  - 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, Jeremy, Don, December 2015**)
- 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
      - Will need detailed cost estimate

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- 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
  - Explore soil and root system to support fence (**Kevin, Paul, Larry, 11.1.**)
    - Fence posts in fixed place for pre-fab fence
  - Identify location of posts, root system, additional large rocks etc. and update design (**Kevin, Paul, Larry, 11.1.**)
  - Finalize the design with FoSPB input and price the project and then FoSPB to (**David, Bryan, Lincoln Block, 11.10. / 8:30**)
    - PPR is ready to meet and talk about the final details
    - Kevin and Don will also be trying to get a rough cost estimate
  - When design and cost estimate are complete then Part II of proposal will be prepared and submitted and approved (**David**)
  - Proposal review and approval / rejection by PP&R (**Bryan**)
  - Prepare for fund raising (**Marjorie**)
  - Fund raising program will be set up with Portland Parks Foundation based on design
- Put up a perimeter “string” fence – ask Kevin or Don
- Park Visitor management 2015 / 2016 – Planned activities (**Gunnar, David**)
  - Understand sentiment in the neighborhood
    - Conduct survey (**FoSPB**)
  - Improved signage
  - Call in issues to create log of activities / build statistics
  - Little Safety Summit – November 2015 (see above for agenda)

Other FoSPB project objectives for 2015

- 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
  - Added Portland5 in Q1 2015
  - Reach out again to PAM and OHS for 2015 park plans and Downtown Park Management Plan
  - Benson / Roosevelt condo buildings

2015 Accomplishments

- Meetings with PP&R – 2.27., 6.26., 9.11.
- 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
- FoSPB letter to mayor and city council – September 2015
- Parke Diem event support – October 2015

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- Connected with visitors from Pearl and South Waterfront District interested in our work

Communication

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSouthParkBlocks>
- Website: [www.fospb.org](http://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
- Graffiti Abatement Program – presentation by Victor – February

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
  - 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 (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 <a href="http://audubonportland.org/files/brochures/feeding%20waterfowl.pdf">http://audubonportland.org/files/brochures/feeding%20waterfowl.pdf</a>	Gunnar	6.26.2013	Done 2.8.2015