

FoSPB Monthly Meeting September 24, 2014 Eliot meeting room 7:00 PM to 8:25 PM

Attendees:

Gunnar Sacher, Co-Chair
Jo Durand
Alan Bell
Marion McNamara
Ian Nicol
Suzie Downing
Chase Tash, PPS
Clay Bench, PPS
Asa Arden, Park Ranger

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 – 9 am Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
- Gunnar met with Mike Boyer to discuss changes at ONI on 9.15.

Park update

- PPS – Clay, activity summary
 - o Starting with a brand new team
 - o Lamp covers again covered with tamper proved screws
 - o 99% calls from FoSPB addressing skating in the park
 - o Review statistics of demographic usage of the park (**Clay**)
- Park Rangers – Asa Arden, activity summary
 - o Drug and alcohol activities are up
 - o Lots of exclusions
 - o Evidence of heroin and meth material in the loo
 - o Few dog issues
 - o Friends of Pearl Park Groups starting of modeling after FoSPB
 - o New Security Manager, Galina Burley
 - o Downtown ranger coverage lower than in previous years
- ONI
 - o Mike Boyer to assume new role within ONI – FoSPB is thanking Mike for his friendship and support of the group
 - o Jacob Brostoff will be responsible for general downtown problem solving.
 - o Brad A. Taylor will be responsible for foot patrol support. He will introduce himself to the group in the October meeting.

Special Topics

- Foot Patrol
 - o When to organize walk with ranger / ONI / PPS – October (**Gunnar**)
 - o PPS Monday evening
 - o Ranger Friday afternoon
 - o Send a note to the Patrol email list when arranged
- PDNA Tree Committee – contact Mary Vogel (mary@plangreen.net or 503-245-7858) if interested

- o Objectives
 - Lobby for strong tree canopy targets
 - Develop priority list of property owners to approach
 - Write to/talk to property owners and ask them to plant trees in front of their buildings/parking lots
 - Write to/talk to property owners and ask them to better maintain trees in front of their buildings
 - Create public demand for more trees downtown—especially from the residents
 - Develop strong relationship with Urban Forestry and with Bureau of Development Services and Bureau of Environmental Services
- PPR meeting in October
 - o Friday, 10.17., 10 am – 11:30 am, Portland Building, Forest Park Rm, 13.th. floor
 - o Agenda
 - Long-range SPB Management Plan - Trees, plantings, turf, irrigation - plan ready to go when PP&R funds become available – update on planning process
 - Turf improvements – see above
 - What is next
 - Update on tree canopy thinning / raising with Jenn Cairo?
 - Safety and Security
 - Intro of Galina Burley, new Security Manager
 - Park visitor management 2015
 - Clarify park usage for public and personal events and management of impact, guidelines for groups that don't need permits
 - Ranger Program update
 - FoSPB Foot patrol update
 - Bond measure – can SPB project be part of the project set to address needed maintenance for example irrigation system for whole park or one block at a time
 - Projects
 - Business recruiting for Shemanski Square – Closed for now until management plan for homeless / transient population understood
 - Improve plantings and labeling in Lincoln Block
 - Fencing for SPB to improve traffic pattern
 - Turf improvements – see above
 - Action Items from previous meetings
 - Labels for rose varieties (**Don, Paul**)
 - Roses in bloom but still no labels
 - Base holders for labels were available
 - Light posts need attention (**Terry, Don, Paul**)
 - Assign UW (Utility Worker) to adjust poles

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 Watering went well with the help of people from University Park and the Eliot Tower
 - o Talk to Paul how much water is enough as we are entering the rainy period
 - o What are next activities – talk to Paul
 - o Do we have the right seeds
 - o Attracting few more people
- Fundraising (**Marjorie**)
 - o Project: Improved plantings and labeling in the Lincoln block.

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- o Fundraising mechanism Portland Parks Foundation
- o Fundraising update as of 9.8.
 - Total Funds raised: \$2,544.80
 - Total Available: \$2,386.50
 - Fundraising still open
- o Next step: Planting event as part of Parke Diem event
 - When: Saturday, 10.11., 9 am – 12 am
 - Where: Meet at Rough rider statue
 - What: Planting new plants at Lincoln Block with plants procured by Bill Zance
 - Other activities depending on number of participants: bark mulch spreading for beds and tree bases. Weeding in beds and walkways; Turf block raking, weeding etc.
 - Need about 10 – 20 participants to support main Lincoln Block activity
 - Ask Jessie B, Parks Foundation, to recruit 15 additional volunteers (**Gunnar**)
 - Advertise event (**Jo, Carole, Jinny, Gunnar**)
- Park Visitor management 2015 (**Gunnar, David**)
 - o Objective: preserve cultural and historic value of the South Park Blocks for all to enjoy
 - o Multi-pronged approach
 - Petition on change.org
 - Collect data from PPS and Park Ranger program
 - Strengthen services in the park
 - Reach out to PPS and Parks Security to discuss opportunities to address the issues
 - Reach out to Commissioner Fritz to discuss concerns
 - Reach out to mayor to advocate for walking beats (foot patrol)
- Label for rose varieties in the rose beds
 - o Secured labels but need more to identify varieties (**Paul, Terri**)

FoSPB project objectives for 2014 – Update

- Improve irrigation systems in all SPB (**Don McTaggart**)
 - o PP&R to identify opportunities
- Business recruitment for Shemanski Park (**Gunnar**)
 - Approach Arlington Club
- Funding – register Parks Foundation to act as fiscal agent (**Marjorie**)
 - o Identify project to raise funding – Irrigation upgrade, bench armrests – PP&R will provide estimated costs and project scopes
 - o Columbia Sportswear incentive program
- Middle Armrest for park benches
 - o Find resource to scope project
 - o Design armrests and submit formal Park Proposal to PPR
- 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

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- Meetings with PP&R – 2.21.
- Garden work parties – 2.22., 3.15., 4.19., 4.26.
- Started a turf maintenance Friends group
- Transitional Youth activities moved from SPB – June 2014
- Helped to improve signage funded by PP&R – 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

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 – 9 am Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
- Turf Improvement - Tue at 9:00 - 11:00, meet in the center of the 1500 block between Market and Clay
- Plant planting for Lincoln Blocks during Parke Diem (10.11.)
- Graffiti Abatement program and graffiti removal, Brad Taylor / Victor Salinas (10.29.)
- Walk with a ranger / ONI / PPS - October
- Year-End get-together (12.10.)

Future Topics

- 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

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Next Meetings:

Last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Eliot 3rd Floor Meeting Room (10.29., 12.10.)

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