

## Meeting Minutes for FoGP, Thurs Aug 13th, 2009

Location and time:

Grant Park Golf Course Clubhouse, 7:00 PM, Thursday August 13th.

### Attendees:

Mary Kanitz, Jody Johnson, Betsy Abert, Don Lawson  
Jim Goulee (of The Park People) attended most of the meeting.

### Discussion items:

#### Review the "Summer Sizzle" picnic:

Improvements for next year's event include:

- Need a bigger sign at the road, possibly on display for a few days before the event.
- Need signs on the road and parking lot, directing people to the pavilion.
- Need more brats.
- Need more plates. (Probably 200 plates, possibly 300 plates)
- Get a 1-sided banner printed up: Friends of Grant Park (can post at the event)

The "Reward" fund is at a little over \$1060. The money will remain in the FoGP account at The Park People, so that if a reward is not paid out, FoGP and Park Watch can use the money for projects in the park.

#### Identify some projects that we can sponsor, which will require around \$2000-\$5000

We decided to follow the actions of Friends of Jacobus Park, and install signage at the Seven Bridges trail system to add a "nature trail" aspect to the trails.

Don and Betsy need to draft a letter of "thank you, now here's what we want to do with your donation" for Bucyrus International.

#### Identify our next social event (and set a date)

The band has a very busy gig schedule, and may want to give "Celtic Halloween" a rest, to be revived in 2010. What other options do we have for a fall "family night" event? (No specific ideas were brought up for the fall, although some "winter" ideas were discussed.)

#### FoGP Website - Preliminary design

The design (as drafted by Matt Uhrig) met with general approval. Suggestions include having a bluebird box in the picture. Seven Bridges should be in the middle, top of the "top of page" graphic.

The site design should include a place to post pictures for the various groups. (Maintain a photo gallery showing recent events, vandalism, etc.)

#### Beach Cleanup

Saturday Sept 26th is the beach clean-up, with an effort made to clean two old tires out of the beach sands, along with picking up the usual amount of trash.

Betsy suggested we consider an additional effort on the beach north of Seven Bridges.

Discussion item: Should FoGP become a 501(c)(3) organization?

This item was on the agenda because we were under the impression that Park People charges an 8% fee, per year, to administer the FoGP money that is in their care. If the 8% is charged against average principal in the account, then eventually our annual income (from fundraisers etc) would go towards paying this service fee.

However, Jim Goulee told us that PP charges 8% on new deposits into the account, but does not charge 8% service fee on the principal. If this is correct, there is nothing stopping FoGP from saving up to sponsor large projects, and there is no financial reason for FoGP to set up its own savings accounts, etc.