Friends of Portage Park Minutes

April 23, 2018

Called to order at 7:05

In attendance: Mary, Stefan, Andrew, Jeff, Robert, Shona, Jennifer, Nichole, Suzanne

Treasurer’s Report

* $15,078.22
* By next meeting, Jennifer and Mary will work to have access to viewing statements online. They will both be on the account and previous treasurer will be removed as he is no longer active in FoPP
* Either a printed bank statement with account numbers removed, or a spreadsheet will be provided at each meeting and will be included in fieldhouse binder.

VP Resignation - Mary Jo stepped down as vice president

Past Events

* Earth Day Clean Up Report - Suzanne
  + Thanks FoPP volunteers Mary and Jackie
  + 35 volunteers
  + Next year suggestions- smaller bags, some pick up sticks, do mulch more officially and have a separate team to do it
  + Good feedback from all ages
  + Will continue next year

* Volunteer Fair Report - Jennifer
  + Eisenhower Library in Harwood Heights
  + Talked to 15-20 people, slower than last year

Upcoming Events

* Farmers Market: Lead
  + Sponsors -
    - Dulas, and Portage Park Animal Hospitals - $850 collected total
    - Stefan gave Mary a list of businesses to reach out to
    - Mary is modifying letter to email to businesses about sponsoring
    - Sponsorship info is available on website
  + Vendors - Jennifer is contact
    - 15 vendors confirmed
    - Several others working to see if it works for them with insurance, etc.
    - Looking for a honey vendor
    - Farms are back, most returning vendors
  + Schools - Opportunity to volunteer to help on market days and get a table to promote school
  + Advertising
    - 2 banners
    - Magnets and flyers - put movies and other summer events on them
    - On city farmers market websites
    - Facebook Pages - Farmer’s Market posted to its own page and FoPP page
  + Volunteers - Jeff, Suz, Mary, and Jennifer confirmed to be present for first market on June 3rd. Will have a sign up for later dates at May meeting
  + Music - 7 already covered, 3 more needed for later in the year, 2-45 minute sets, can put out a tip jar, and merchandise.
* Kids Sale -
  + Push back to later in the summer- Suz will contact people who are interested in being on a committee for this event

* Movies in the Parks
  + Wonder Woman - Thursday, June 21st
    - Dress like a Hero
  + Coco - Thursday, August 9th
    - Glow in the Park Night
  + ET - August 23rd - TBA, brainstorm for May meeting
  + Suzanne will reach out to Tom about July Finding Nemo and ask about popcorn.
  + Mary will let Taco Buggy know about movie night dates
  + Jennifer will let tamale vendor know that there is now also a food truck with park permit

Neighborhood News

* Andrew - Northwest Portage Walking Museum
  + Portage = carrying canoes from Des Plaines to Chicago
  + Putting in art installations along Irving Park Road to commemorate Portage Park’s and other neighborhoods’ legacy
  + Highlighting parks that are already there including Portage Park recreation and nature
  + Still in planning stages, but will be looking for support down the road with this project as it applies to PP

* Lights on baseball fields - thoughtful about neighborhood and when they run. Concerns about having them on too much and being to bright for neighborhood

FoPP Business

* Binder
  + Suz will put in the Fieldhouse along with dates for upcoming meetings
* New Meeting Dates
  + 4th Tuesday of each month
* By-law Review
  + Board will meet to outline by-laws to present to full group