

Lake Park Friends Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 • 7:00 p.m. • Location: Marcia Coles Community Room

Present: Ann Vermut, Ann Wollmer (Administrator), Judy Van Till, Sandy Wiegand, Steve Morse, Chris Buell (Accountant), Susanna Mortara, Katie West, Steve Duback, Phil Schultz, Jennifer Grasse, Sue Forlenza (Milw. County Parks)

Excused: Jim Cope, Jayne Pink, Alice Wilson, Sarah Zimmerman, Brian DesPlaines, Gerry Broderick

1. The meeting was called to order.
2. The June 28, 2011 minutes were approved, without opposition, on a motion by Steve Duback (Katie West seconded). Discussion by Steve Morse that all new members should have been welcomed to the board. Introductions were done by all present.
3. Government Report: Sue Forlenza is pleased to have LPF here to help out Lake Park. A LPF member contacted various people regarding the failing condition of the cinder track. Sue has agreed to move the soccer goals, get the weeds out, apply the herbicide and oversee on the inside of the field and obtain more cinder to refresh the track.

Picnic tables are not in good shape. We've lost part of the inventory and they cannot be reused. The Parks Dept. has been trying to piece together some tables using parts from damaged tables, but they have limited resources and staff. She is suggesting LPF help to purchase tables with metal legs at a cost of \$250. Chris Buell suggested plastic recycled tables. Sue is asking the board to purchase 40-50 tables, mainly to be kept in Picnic area 3, where concerts are held.

Regarding the MCCR, the reality is that the MCCR is sitting vacant. It is not being used. Phil Schultz asked, is there a way that this room and the space outside, under the overhang can be refurbished somehow? Sue reported that Bartolotta's has already submitted a proposal with limited use of the room. Sue gets the calls for this space and says it is difficult to determine the use of this room. Room Capacity is a concern. Phil Schultz asked is it possible to amend Bartolotta's lease so more money could be put into a fund to maintain the MCCR and the outdoor area? Katie West suggested that we form a smaller committee to hash out the details. Sandy Wiegand (chairperson), Steve Morse, Steve Duback and Chris Buell have volunteered to be part of that committee. Steve Duback moved that the appointed committee take into account the policy of the board that this room be used to its

fullest extent, consistent with our needs, to maximize revenue for the benefit of Lake Park. Katie West seconded and the Motion carried.

Sue reported that there are now “No pedestrians/no bikes” signs on Ravine Road because it is not safe for bikers or pedestrians. Susanna Mortara suggested the road be closed for the 4th of July or other special events because people don’t get an opportunity to walk on it, which has a spectacular bridge and a grand view opening to the lake.

Sue Forlenza left the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report: Chris Buell was present to give the report. Steve Morse had a comment on restricted checking and money market, wanting to know about who has the restricted money in checking and who has it in money market. Chris responded that it was difficult to do. Also, Chris would like to receive minutes shortly after a meeting. Because we are in an accrual, we now have \$100,000 in income (Windhover donation). Why are wages and salaries different from month to month? It varies from month to month because we are accrual. Steve Duback asked why we use accrual. Chris said that LPF adopted this way previously and she is working with it. Phil Schultz suggested that Chris and Brian DesPlaines review whether this method is working. Katie West moved that the treasurer’s report be approved. Motion passed without opposition.

Chris said that yoga is not covering itself since Oct 1, 2010. It is suggested the cost be raised to cover the difference.

Also, Chris would like to find someone cheaper for credit card services. We are getting charged some hefty fees and not getting much out of it. The board gave her permission to proceed with the investigation.

Fiscal year ends Sept. 30. Receipts, bills need to be sent to Chris by October 15.

5. Administrative report: (Ann Wollmer): Historic postcard notecards are now available for purchase in a set of 12 for \$20. Ann also reported meeting James Wood, who is a Milwaukee County Parks Ranger. The Ranger asked for some LPF dog leashes to hand out to dog owners who do are not complying with the leash ordinance. The Ranger reports that, while he is able to ticket owners who have dogs off leash, he has been giving many warnings at this point but has not ticketed. Ann will be on vacation the week of August 22. The next newsletter deadline may occur after the Cirque, in mid-October, when more is happening in the park.

6. Development report: Alice Wilson was not present. Phil Schultz reported that Alice is working on Lake Park promo items.
7. Executive Committee report: Sarah Zimmerman was not present. The Executive Committee may be talking about strategic planning for the LPF board to occur sometime in the fall. Ann Wollmer will work on getting some suggested dates.
8. Education Report: Steve reported the oak trees are doing well and have been weeded and watered. Recently, nature committee had GPS plotting done on “trees of interest” in the park. Ultimately, this map will contain benches, trees, trails, etc. (This will hopefully help to lessen the number of trees being cut down in the park.)

Nature committee planted some of the waterfall rain garden plants in the Locust Ravine and the North Ravine.

Nature committee would like to mulch large trees that are being damaged by lawn mowers. The committee would also like to plant larger trees in the park.

History committee had an oral history program (audio recorded) of recollections of past July 4th in the park. Three history hikes are being held in the park this summer.

9. Old business:

- a. Waterfall Ravine update (Phil Schultz): Recently, a draft storm water management plan was completed and has gone to the County for review. Kevin Haley said it looks fine, but he said there is no money, as the board was told by Dave Burch at the June 28 board meeting. Catch basins are suggested at the top area. There may not be any work done for at least 30 days. So, LPF will go in and do what it can on its own to help improve the situation. Regarding the plugged catch basin in the parking lot, Phil said if Bartolotta’s funds won’t pay for it, LPF will rooter out the plugged storm basin, perhaps at an estimated cost of \$500.

Katie West left the meeting.

- b. Performance structure (Sandy Wiegand): Historic Preservation Commission passed our proposal. Parks, Energy and Environment Committee was also informed of the proposed structure. \$10,000 was received from Windhover to

pay for professional fees. We have a commitment letter for the remaining \$90,000. A call has been made to release the remaining funds. Drawings are underway. Timber frame contractors are now being discussed. A contractor construction manager was consulted today.

- c. Signage (Phil Schultz): Sandy Wiegand and Ann Wollmer will work with Sue Forlenza to find some new LPF signage for Lincoln Memorial Drive.

10. New business:

- a. Cirque du Lake Park (Susanna Mortara): Sunday, October 9, 2011 from 5-8 p.m is the date for this year's auction, wine & beer tasting.
- b. Wish List (Steve Duback & Jennifer Grasse): Steve said that they have not had good response to their email asking for suggestions of what people want to see on the LPF wish list of projects. They will ask once again.

Susanna Mortara left the meeting.

- c. County Budget (Phil Schultz): Phil emailed out the Public Policy Forum Budget Preview report on the 2012 Milwaukee County Budget. This is what the county is using to draft the budget. Milwaukee basically has a structural budget that will be increasingly in the hole. It is important for LPF to decide what role it will play in the future of Lake Park and this will be addressed at a future strategic planning session.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The next meeting is Tuesday, October 11 at 7 p.m. in the MCCR