



**Joint Meeting with the Friends of the Parks  
Foundation and the Park Board Minutes  
Monday, November 28, 2016**

Commissioners Present: Richard Drazner, Scott Jacobson, Adriane Johnson and Jack Schmerer

Commissioner Absent: Larry Reiner

Staff Present: Executive Director Ryan Risinger, Director of Recreation and Facilities Bill Heider, Director of Business and Human Resources John Short, Director of Parks and Risk Management Tim Howe and Executive Assistant Martha Weiss

Friend of the Parks Directors Present: Steve Antman, Lynne Schneider, Perry Lakhani, Sara Lambert, Arnie Brown, Howard Hoffman, Cathy Novak and Ryan Risinger

Director Absent: Rob Giddens

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Roll Call**

President Drazner called the Joint Meeting with the Friends of the Parks Foundation to order at 5:00 pm. The roll was called and Commissioners Drazner, Jacobson, Johnson and Schmerer answered present. Friends of the Parks Directors Risinger, Antman, Schneider, Lakhani, Brown, Hoffman, Novak and Lambert answered present.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

There were no guests to introduce.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Foundation Treasurer Perry Lakhani moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Director Brown and approved with a voice vote.

**FRIENDS OF THE PARKS FOUNDATION**

President Drazner welcomed the Foundation Board members and said that they were pleased to have them attend. Foundation Board President Antman thanked the Park Board for inviting the Foundation Board to the meeting and asked the newly appointed Directors of the Foundation to introduce themselves as well as the Park District staff present at the meeting.

## BUILDING AWARENESS OF THE FOP

### **New trifold brochure**

President Antman said that the four new, active directors of the Foundation Board are interested in having an impact on the Foundation, the residents and the Park District. The trifold was developed to help build awareness of the Foundation, which is important, especially in light of the campaign for the Community Arts Center.

### **More exposure of the FOP logo with the Park District logo**

Vice President Schneider feels that there should be more connection of the FOP logo with the Park District logo and it should be more visible.

Commissioner Johnson commented that it is typical of foundations to host an annual fund raiser dinner or event where they invite residents to highlight their accomplishments, build awareness and motivate residents to get involved. Commissioner Jacobson suggested that any ideas for building awareness and asking for donations should target different groups because the Foundation should not keep asking the same groups of residents for donations.

## IDEAS FOR FOP SPONSORED EVENTS

### **International Folk Festival**

Director Lakhani said that this idea for an international folk festival is something that the Foundation has been discussing for approximately a year, and he would like to form a committee with several partners involved. The festival would include food, dance and the arts and could be both indoors and outdoors. He thinks that this would be a great public relations opportunity to present Buffalo Grove as the international community that it is. President Antman said that the directors will do their research to determine the feasibility of this type of event. Vice President Schneider said that the committee to plan this event would be open to residents and businesses in the community. There was a consensus that this activity would be a good event for awareness of the Foundation.

### **BG's Got Talent Contest/Battle of the Bands**

Vice President Schneider said that because the interest in the Battle of the Band has waned, it might be a good idea to inject something new. The idea is to have a talent contest that would include all types of local entertainers and the winner of the contest could perform at the main stage at BG Days.

### **Opening Night of Summer Musical Gala or BG Singers 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Director Novak said that the BG Singers are celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year and suggested having a benefit concert before the performances begin. Vice President Schneider also mentioned having a benefit during the opening night of the summer musical.

## FUNDRAISING IDEAS

### **Taste of the Market**

President Antman explained that he solicited the Buffalo Grove Farmers' Market vendors for donations for a basket of approximately \$150 worth of items and then sold raffle tickets for the basket. The vendors were very supportive of the cause and it raised just under \$70 for this first time effort. The directors are considering doing this again perhaps twice during the Farmers'

Market season. This is a mutual benefit to the vendors because their generosity was acknowledged at the Foundation booth and on the market's Facebook page.

**Sale of Paver Bricks for the Patio at the CAC**

Executive Director Risinger said that the patio section of the vestibule project is complete at the Community Arts Center and the sale of the bricks will be offered along with the bricks at other sites in the Park District.

**Sale of Raffle Tickets for Gift Certificate for Park District Services**

Vice President Schneider brought up the idea of selling raffle tickets for perhaps a four-month period for an item, such as a gift certificate for Park District programs.

Commissioner Jacobson thanked the directors for volunteering their time on the Foundation Board. He asked if the Foundation Board had set a goal for fund raising that would assist them in their planning. President Antman said that a specific goal has not been set since the Foundation's new directors became involved, but they can set a goal after a consensus has been reached on which events they want to focus on. Commissioner Schmerer said that staff involvement has to be considered when the Foundation Board is planning events. Commissioner Johnson suggested that it might be good to have a strategic plan that will help in attracting volunteers. President Drazner thanked the Foundation Board for their ideas and commented that the idea of the international folk festival is exciting. He hopes that an event like the folk festival will get the various ethnic groups in the community involved in the Park District. Director Brown thanked the Park Board for all of their efforts for the community. President Antman also thanked the Board for their volunteer efforts.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Lambert moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 pm, seconded by Treasurer Lakhani and passed with a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary