



**Board Minutes
Of the Friends of Lafayette Park
May 21, 2014**

Attendees: Jeff Stoiber, Tim McDonough, Paul Rosenbaum, David Madland, Kristin Ortiz and Tad Stewart

Minutes: Minutes for the March 18, 2014, meeting were approved.

New Board Member: Kristin Ortiz was welcomed as a new board member. She is very interested in gardening and finding volunteers for the gardens.

Web Site: The board discussed looking for a volunteer to handle updates to the website; and for long term, a new board member to handle the website and web/online work.

Financial & Fundraising: Tim presented the Treasurer's report. He noted that FOLP had a balance of \$15,335.90 as of April 30, 2014. He summarized details about the installation of benches funded by donations. FOLP has received \$2,500 for one bench (Gonzalez), and \$1,005 for a second (Rosenbaum). The cost for a bench and installation is now \$2,750 with installation on a new cement pad. These two benches have been ordered and will be installed near the tot lot. Tim proposed that in the future, the quoted price of benches be \$3,000 to cover all costs if someone wants to raise funds for a park bench. A third bench has received \$290 in donations (Smolka) and no bench will be ordered until the fundraising is complete. It will be placed near the baseball field following the school renovation construction next year or thereafter.

He suggested FOLP purchase new 39-gallon plastic garbage can liners for the park trash receptacles, a cost of \$250 total.

He suggested placing four new trash receptacles around the ball fields and asking coaches to pick up the field after games and practices.

Tim recommended the board move forward with installing the Doodie Calls dog waste containers, since FOLP has sufficient funds. He recommended ordering two and evaluating how the system works.

FOLP is paying for mulch for the gardens. DGS had brought the mulch in the past, but has discontinued. He suggested FOLP press DGS to pick up the recyclables collected in the park.

Chevy Chase Community Association: Steve Agostino will update the board at the next meeting on CCCA activities. He is the FOLP's liaison with the CCCA.

Lafayette School Renovations: FOLP is waiting more details on the plans, and how those plans will coordinate with plans to upgrade the park.

Tennis: Paul discussed having the city install lighting on the tennis courts. He said the lights can be "low profile" lighting – that is, with light shining on the courts directly with little bright light spilling beyond the boundaries of the courts. The project, however, is controversial with some of the neighbors living near the courts opposing the lighting. He said a survey he conducted indicated 80% in favor of installing lights. The lights would go off at 8:30 or 9 p.m.

He asked if FOLP should get involved and take a position on the lights, or should the lights be just the project for the tennis club. He proposed that the FOLP support the installation of the lights.

[However, in discussions later, the FOLP board agreed not to take a position either way on the lights. That the lights were not an issue for the FOLP to get involved with.]

Rec Center: It was noted that the city funding to upgrade Lafayette Park would not be sufficient to upgrade the rec center.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for July 17 (later rescheduled to Aug. 21), 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at Tim's house.