



**Board Minutes  
Of the Friends of Lafayette Park  
November 12, 2015**

**Attendees:** President Jeff Stoiber, Treasurer Tim McDonough, Kimberly Cestari, Tad Stewart, Steve Agostino, David Madland, Judy Goodman, Paul Rosenbaum and Dennis Smyth.

**Minutes:** Minutes for the Sept. 24, 2015, meeting were approved without revision.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer submitted his report. Tim McDonough suggested FOLP subsidize the cost of three benches, at \$1,000 each, to get them in place, since fundraising had stalled.

The FOLP annual fundraising letter is being prepared and printed, and will be mailed about Dec. 3.

Regarding the 'clean hands' certificate from the city for the Friends application, the treasurer said he is continuing to work on the paperwork. However, FOLP may need to hire a tax professional to complete the tax forms required.

The treasurer discussed a substantial list of transition issues ahead of his plans to step down at the end of the year. The board discussed finding a new board member who could have the right skills to be the treasurer. Dennis Smyth was planning to contact a couple of prospects. The treasurer discussed the many details of what information and knowledge will need to be passed to a successor and how best to ensure a smooth transition.

**"Friends Group" Status:** The application for the designation as an official "Friends" group, is nearly complete. Answers to the Friends application questions have been completed. What is needed are the clean hands designation, and a letter from the ANC when the application is ready to be filed.

**School Renovation Project:** FOLP plans to continue to monitor the impact of the school renovation project on the park and then later try to coordinate with DGS to address any damage. Plans for capturing storm water run-off at the school site have still not been completely finalized. However, indications from city and school officials are that a roof-top water collection system will

be installed on the roof of the school rather than creating a bio-retention field/pond in the southeast corner of the park/ball fields.

The city's plans for the ball fields may include designating one field as a multi-purpose field and have one remain a ball field. A question officials were asking is if the fields should be artificial turf or grass. FOLP board discussed these two options and was mostly neutral, or slightly favoring turf, given that each has pros and cons. The board feels the running track around the ball fields should be a rubberized running surface.

**DGS:** FOLP plans to stay in contact with DGS regarding some outstanding issues from the park renovation project completed in early 2015. These issues include potential damage to the cherry trees at the entrance from 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and their roots; getting the irrigation system on the top field to function properly; installing pervious pavement on the paths rather than asphalt; improving the lighting; and addressing the water overflow and drainage from the tot lot water park area.

**Clean-up Day:** The Fall Clean-up day is Nov. 21, and the board discussed the announcements and preparations, and which projects need to be done. These include cleaning up the wild growth on the berm area, and perhaps plant decorative grasses. The gardens also need the leaves blown out.

**Gardens:** Casey Trees plans to plant 8 trees in the park. The trees will be hardwood and planted in December. They will become shade trees around the playground area. A board member walked the park with a Casey Tree representative to mark the tree placements for optimum shade.

**Tennis:** Paul said no resolution from the city yet regarding the cracks forming in the new surfaces of the tennis courts. He had earlier sent photos to DGS. He plans to follow up with DGS. He stressed that the city needs to address this situation with the contractor before the cracks get worse, and prior to the winter.

**New Business:** Apparently the city has earmarked some funds for renovating the rec center at the park. Still early, and no architectural plans at this point, but FOLP plans to follow up to check the status of the planning.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for January 21, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at Steve Agostino's home.