



**Board Minutes
Of the Friends of Lafayette Park
March 22, 2016**

Attendees: President Jeff Stoiber, Tad Stewart, Judy Goodman, Paul Rosenbaum and Dennis Smyth.

Minutes: Minutes for the February 4, 2016, meeting were approved without revision.

Earth Day – FOLP Clean-Up Day: Organizers of an Earth Day celebration for the students at Lafayette attended the meeting to outline their plans to celebrate Earth Day and teach young students about environmental issues and recycling. They have a number of activities planned for the children. FOLP had agreed in February to team with them and hold the FOLP spring park clean-up day on the same day, Thursday, April 21, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Parents and children attending the Lafayette festivities will be encouraged to participate in the clean-up – leaf raking, trash pick-up and other chores.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer submitted his report. Tim McDonough noted the donations and installation plans for two new park benches are on track. The benches have been ordered and will be installed when the weather is warmer. He had completed the 2015 tax returns. The bank balance as of Feb. 29, 2016, was \$13,477.49. The treasurer also provided a list of transition items to address as he hands off the treasurer duties to a new treasurer.

The board also decided to divide the treasurer’s duties – a part time bookkeeper will be employed on an hourly basis to keep the financial records, and a board treasurer will handle the other treasurer duties.

The board voted to name Dennis Smyth the acting treasurer until a new treasurer is found; hire Jane Kratovil as a bookkeeper on an hourly basis as needed; and to hire Keith Jennings to complete the “clean hands” paperwork required by DC for the Friend’s group application.

“Friends Group” Status: The application for the designation as an official “Friends” group is nearly complete. What remains are the “clean hands” certification from the city, and a letter from the ANC when the application is ready to be filed.

School and Park Renovation Projects: Regarding the school renovation, one of the main concerns has been how the school project plans to contain runoff storm water. The plans are now focusing on the top of the hill in the park, which has been the source of much rain water runoff. The ball fields also will be used to capture some of the rain runoff.

DGS: DGS is initiating the early stage of the process for building a new rec center at the park, to be a larger facility than the current facility. However, the source of the funding may be uncertain. Paul plans to research how the city would fund the project.

FOLP plans to continue to monitor the impact of the school renovation project on the park and later coordinate with DGS to address any damage. There are also some outstanding issues from the park renovation itself from early 2015.

Gardens: The board agreed to plant a tree in honor of Merrill's years of work at the park. Merrill plans to let the board know which species of tree would be her preference.

Tennis: Paul said cracks in the tennis courts are getting larger following the winter, and there is still no resolution from the city regarding repairing the cracks in the new surfaces. He plans to continue to follow up with the city.

New Business: Jeff encouraged all board members to become more active in taking on projects.

Next Meeting: The next meeting schedule was left TBD, and place TBD. (Later determined to be May 17, 2016, at Jeff's residence.)