

Friends of Pier Park Meeting: January 11, 2016 St Johns Community Center – Room 1

In attendance:

Matt Kuntz(Chair)

Kelly Pergande(Vice Chair)

Keola Morely(Treasurer)

Brian Cole(Technology Officer)

Mary Ann Aschenbrenner (member)

Alex Salazar(PPR)

Quorum fulfilled.

Meeting called to order @ 6:35 pm

(Minutes were taken by Kelly in the secretary's absence)

November meeting (potluck and elections) minutes not officially approved. Need to approve at February meeting. Erin will need to send out November minutes.

Update on old business:

Park benches and new trash cans

Alex reported that he has received only one letter of support. He requests letters of support for the capital improvements proposal. Email or deliver hard copy letters to him. Alex also requested that FoPP give financial support toward trash can and park benches capital improvements. Support agreed. No motions for amount.

Kelly reported no new developments with Sequoia wood project however there is an extensive park projects form to complete and she asked for assistance in completing form to present to PPR. Alex will consult with Larry Magginis @ Urban Forestry about Sequoia wood(log #8?)...dimensions approx 25 feet. Requesting 8 ft. lengths.

Restrooms

Alex reported that it appears that Pier Park restrooms did not make 1st round of bond measure but possibly in the running for next round. Playground @ Kenton possibly approved.

Alex announced that there is a Budget Meeting tomorrow evening(Tuesday 1.12.16) @ 6pm. location @ 16th and Division. Encouraged FoPP to attend if possible. Also discussed the N Portland Park Advisory Board(contact: Ginger Edwards/Arbor Lodge). Matt was interested to follow up with organization.

New Business:

Should Friends of Pier Park pursue a 501c(3) status?

Matt led discussion. Current status with nonprofit EIN #/ tax exempt with member benefits. Matt illustrated with examples of other local and national organizations with 501c(3) status and their budgets.

Questions: Public charity or private foundation?

How will new status benefit FoPP?
Is the cost to file (\$400) worth pursuing?

Discussion decided that FoPP is a Public Charity. Benefits included: FoPP could apply for larger grants and seek corporate funding for larger capital projects. Most funders acknowledge 501c(3) and may give more to FoPP because it would benefit funders as well for tax purposes as charitable giving. It was discussed that as a 501c(3) FoPP could not endorse any political candidate as stipulated in regulations for 501c(3) organizations. Also: In the event that FoPP dissolves, balance of funds given to NPNS.

Motion to pursue 501c(3) Status: In favor: Matt , 2nd by Mary Ann
All in Favor. Approved. Matt will complete and send form. FoPP will pay \$400 for application.

Brainstorming Session for our “Dream” Pier Park...short and long term goals. The list of improvements include:
New restrooms, benches, drinking fountains, a stage for symphonies and arts, summer movie program, refinish tennis courts, nature walk with flora/fauna education signage, pollinator garden, long term pool maintenance plan, local mural on skate park pipe, roofs over basketball, tennis courts & skate park, disc golf pro shop, additional tree protection for discs, membership drive, better integrate baseball leagues, more multi-cultural outreach, pier park apparel and discs.

Public comment period for non-members allowed. No comments to report.

Other comments: Matt suggested adding an Events Page to current FoPP website and consider adding Donor Tiers in the future and maintain an active members list. FoPP should also participate in all city wide nonprofit giving/matching events. Possibly include a table at the St Johns Farmers Market. Must increase funding from local businesses and community.

Mary Ann announced that there is a Volunteer Fair in February(date tba) in St. Johns and SOLV cleanup event scheduled for April 23rd.

Brian announced that he has a contact with Portland Brewing(Josh) and he will connect regarding possible future fundraising for Disc Golf Course.

Treasurer Report(Keola): current balance \$8,031.
Last deposit \$1000(Sept 2015) from Grimm

Motion to adjourn: Matt, 2nd by Alex

Meeting adjourned @ 7:30pm.