

Friends of Cathedral Square

Steering Committee Meeting

01/20/2016

**20 January 2016/ 5:30 PM / 825 N Jefferson St, Milwaukee
Board Room 1st Floor**

ATTENDEES

Kim Morris, Carl Baehr, Dave Reid, Edward Beckard, Emily McElwee, Greg Patin, Mariiana Tzotcheva, Thomas Leisle Jr. & Laura Schloesser (Parks Department)

Not in attendance: Mary Patzke, Rob Holtz

AGENDA

Friends Groups Creation
Members Intro
State of the Park
Mission Statement
Acting Board Members Election

NOTES

- **Friends Groups Creation** - Laura Schloesser, Chief of Administration and External Affairs, Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture provided a brief overview of the process and steps required to form a Friends Group. Topics included:
 - Importance of having a well defined Mission Statement
 - Developing Initial Organizational Structure
 - Board members election
 - Bylaws
 - How to run meetings?
 - Membership policy
 - Is voting just by Board or larger membership?

- Is the membership going to be free or for fee, will there be membership levels
- Suggestion to attend other parks groups' meetings. Currently there are 158 parks groups, 58 of which active. An example of a very active group was given - Doctor's Park friends group
- **Member Intro** - members in attendance introduced themselves, their background and interest in being part of the Friends Group
- **State of the Park** - around the table discussion on the history, the current and future state of the park, what works well, what can be approved upon (ex.physical layout), small fixes where the group can participate, long term ideas, park uses, funding challenges. Examples of great looking and successful parks from other cities were discussed. Greg Patin shared highlights of the Milwaukee Downtown plan as it relates to the park. This year marks two major anniversaries for the park:
 - 25 Years - Jazz in The Park
 - 35 Years - Bastille Days
- **Mission statement**- group brainstormed ideas for what the friend's group mission should be. Keywords suggested:
 - Preservation
 - Maintain
 - Improve
 - Economic Impact
 - Downtown/Urban Park
 - Evolution
 - Inclusive
 - Town Square
 - Gathering Space
 - Complements Cathedral
 - Supports Business
 - Civic Beauty

Further discussion to take place at the next Steering Committee meeting in order to formulate the group's mission.

- **Acting Board members** - the group elected the following board members
 - Greg Patin - President
 - Dave Reid - Vice President
 - Mariiana Tzotcheva - Secretary
 - Edward Beckard - Treasurer (Proposed, pending his acceptance)

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Laura Schloesser** - send out:
 - a. examples of other friends groups l statements - emailed on January 21
 - b. Sample bylaws -emailed on January 21
2. **Greg Patin** - send out electronic copies of the Downtown Plan
3. **Mariiana Tzotcheva** -send out Meeting Minutes from Jan 20th meeting
4. **Edward Beckard** - arrange room for Feb meeting at the Astor Hotel
5. **All** - consider attending other Parks groups meetings
6. **All** - prepare ideas for Mission Statement to be discussed during Feb meeting

NEXT MEETING

02/16/2016, 6:00 pm, The Juneau Room at The Knickerbocker Hotel and Condominiums at 1028 East Juneau Ave,
Milwaukee , WI