

FRIENDS OF HUNTER PARK

Next Meeting: February 9th, 6:30 p.m.. at Allen Neighborhood Center

Minutes of Friends of Hunter Park meeting held on January 5, 2005

In Attendance: JulieAnne Jones (co-chair), Nancy VanHoozier, Corie Jason, Denise Lynch (Lansing Parks & Rec), Doris Witherspoon (City of Lansing), Irene Cahill (Lansing Parks & Rec-Forestry) and Bri Havens (ANC MSW Intern).

Old Business

Questions for Parks and Recreation

Denise Lynch, from the Lansing Parks and Recreation Department agreed to check into a few specific questions that were brought up at the last meeting. Denise reported on the following:

- Trashcans can be left in the park all year round. Steve Ridder, the Grounds Crew Supervisor for the Parks and Rec. Department suggested that we leave the trashcans in the park until November. Denise said to call Steve and let him know where we would like the trashcans placed.
- Carole Monroe is the person at the Parks and Rec. Department that we need to talk to concerning the rules of selling concessions at the park. Carole handles all of the special events in the park dealing with the sale of concessions.
- Denise reported that we have to get the okay from the Fire Department to have small bonfires in the park. She also reported that the Parks and Rec. Dept. has used transportable bonfire barrels and she thought that those would be very appropriate if we received approval from the Fire Department.
- Murdock Jemerson agreed that it would be fine to change the sign near the park entrance on Kalamazoo Avenue to make it more visible.

Winter Event:

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the proposed winter event in Hunter Park. The following points were made:

- Nancy VanHoozier created the flyer for the Winter Event. Although a specific time and date has yet to be determined, it was decided that we should advertise that a Winter Event is in the planning process. Bri will make a sign to hang up in ANC's window and JulieAnne Jones will send a letter to the President's of the 6 neighborhood organizations that surround the park in addition to area schools so that the word will be spread throughout the Eastside
- Bri is in charge of calling Celebration Cinemas, NCG Cinemas, Toys R Us, Ceasarland, Bells Pizzs, and McDonalds for prizes to give away at the event. It was also decided that it is important to have some small prize for everyone who participated in the Winter Event, be it a free ice cream cone coupon or a sticker-something small.
- Instead of selling hot chocolate and cider, it was decided that for our first event, the Friends of Hunter Park would like to give out hot chocolate and cider. Donations will be accepted.
- Corie Jason will be one of the judges for the Snowman Building Contest. There will be 3 categories-"Most Creative Snowman," "Biggest Snowman," and "Snowman the Most Resembles Frosty." Participants in the Snowman Building Contest must bring their own accessories (e.g. scarf, hat, nose, etc.) to add to their snowman, if they wish.
- A call to the Fire Department will be made either by Joan Nelson or Bri to check out the rules for having the bonfire in the park at the Winter Event

Spring Clean Up Event:

There was a lengthy discussion about the Spring Clean Up. The following points were made:

- The Clean Up date is April 30th (The Rain Date is May 7th)
- Bri called Tonya Moore about the “Adopt a Park” program and she is sending more specific information in the mail concerning that program. Bri will share that information at the next meeting. Tonya did disclose that tools would not be provided for that event. Corie suggested that perhaps the Garden Project could lend us their tools to use. More discussion about that will occur at the following meeting.
- Irene Cahill from the Parks and Recreation’s Forestry Department came to the meeting and made the following suggestions about mulching the perimeter path:
 - Create the perimeter path according to the current patterns walkers take in the park
 - Do the mulching in segments because it is difficult work. Irene will deliver as much mulch as we ask for and will only drive the mulch out into different areas around the park if the ground is frozen. If the ground is not frozen then she will place the mulch on cement in order to avoid the soft ground.
 - Specify the machinery that is used in the park when the cement path is created so that trees and other natural elements of the park are not damaged by equipment that is unnecessarily large.
 - Any path must be 10 feet away from the base of each tree in the park in order to maintain the root system of the trees
 - Whatever the Friends of Hunter Park decides to take on in the park, be sure that we have the manpower and time to maintain it.

Summer Event:

There was a lengthy discussion about the Summer Event. The following points were discussed:

- The Mayoral Grant will be written to fund the Summer Event.
- Corie will contact Jeremy Sprague to find out if he would be willing to lend his sound equipment for any live entertainment that will be provided at the Summer Event
- A few of the members of the Friends of Hunter Park group will meet on Wednesday, January 13, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss more specifics about the grant. The meeting will be held upstairs at the Allen Neighborhood Center.
- At the event we would like to have:
 - Games (dunk tank?)
 - Live music (Paloma, Kate Peterson, Sprague Brothers to name a few)
 - A large tent
 - Printing/advertising costs
 - 50/50 Raffle
 - Food??
 - Clowns, Jugglers

Grants/Funding Opportunities:

The Neighborhood Advisory Board Mayoral Grant is due on February 4th. Bri will be meeting with several members of the Friends of Hunter Park to finish up the details of that grant before submission.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for February 9th, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Allen Neighborhood Center.

Please call Bri at 367-2468 with questions, comments, or corrections. Thanks.

