



Meeting Minutes

Saturday October 14, 2023

The meeting started at 9:30 am hybrid in-person/zoom.



1. Introductions

The following people attended the FoSP meeting:

Board Members	Office	Present
Paul Talbert	President	Yes
Lizabeth Coller	Treasurer	Yes
Ted Weinberg	Secretary	Yes
Paul Shannon		Yes
Quorum:		Yes

Additional Attendees:

Al SmithFriend of Seward Park
 Patty BormanNeighbor
 RichardFriend of Seward Park
 Nate.....Junior at Garfield High School
 Joseph MansonAudible Director
 SaláFriend of Seward Park

2. Announcements

PaulT. There was a partial solar eclipse today! We all watched it prior to the meeting.
 Discussed Seward Park survey.

Lizabeth. I believe there is a new zoom link for the meeting.

PaulS. The new zoom link is on the Friends web site.

3. Annual Dues

PaulT. \$20 or 2 hours of volunteer work.
 [Several folks contributed \$20.]

4. Board Members



We voted and elected Paul Talbert, Lizabeth Coller, Paul Shannon, Ted Weinberg, Salá, and Patty Borman to the board.

5. Officers

We voted and elected:

Paul Talbert as President
Paul Shannon as Vice President
Patty Borman and Ted Weinberg as co-Secretaries
Lizabeth Coller as Treasurer

6. Lake Washington Boulevard Task Force

PaulT. [Read an email from PatK]

LizL. They're pushing for stop signs and speed bumps at every intersection, which is awful. The Coexist group has made some suggestions. The City has another survey out for the Seattle Transportation Plan. That's also taking feedback for reducing MLK to 1 lane.

Al. They put in hard centerlines on Rainier Avenue. It's a hazard for bicycles. It's already starting to disintegrate.

Lizabeth. It's also hazardous to cars.

7. Quiet Parks

LizL. Met with head of Urban Parks. Seward Park will qualify. The Parks Dept has been pushing for the inclusion of Discovery Park, but the Quiet Parks folks collected sound information and found that Discovery Park has too much air traffic noise. Andrews Bay was the quietest yet this year due to improved law enforcement.

Al. I saw a rock group playing in the amphitheater recently. I'm guessing that they didn't have a permit.

Patty. I saw an unpermitted event with cars and booths.

8. Green Flag award meeting

PaulS. The meeting was very congenial. The judges pointed out that it's been a decade since Seattle Parks management has come. Todd, the Sustainability Advisor to Seattle Parks, attended. LizL and I attended.



David Douglass with Cascadia Bicycles has been running bike races on the Seward Park upper loop every Thursday night in the summer for 33 years. There's a crevice on the northeast corner of the loop that's hazardous to bicycles which he would like to see fixed. There seems to be a division within the Parks Dept between the civic part and the forest part.

- LizL.** You want to involve members of the community. The Parks representative questioned whether we were representative of the community. When we tried to engage with someone from Parks, he just said, "Call the number."
- Salá.** Does the Green Flag Award come with money?
- LizL.** They said it would enable Parks to get hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- Salá.** Why would Parks fix the road for cyclists? It's made for cars.
- PaulS.** The bike racing has made the area much safer.
- Salá.** What are the bicyclists giving to the park?
- PaulT.** I think it would be reasonable to invite David Douglass to attend our meetings and get him more involved. I think we should also invite the Clay Studio and Pista Sa Naya group. If there's a hazard, we should fix it, whether they're bikers, pedestrians, or others.
- PaulS.** I see our role as supporting all uses of the park.
- Salá.** I'd like to see someone who's been using the park for 33 years to get more involved.
- PaulS.** We shouldn't require it.
- TedW.** We should encourage David to join us.
- Richard.** We should block all bicycles and skateboards. They're unsafe.
- PaulS.** We shouldn't ban all people because of the behavior of a few.
- Al.** I have trouble with racers. They want to go fast.
- Patty.** During Covid there were not supposed to be bicyclists in the park. I noticed that it was much safer. At Greenlake they have a separate lane for bicycles.
- PaulT.** Can we get back to the Greenflag discussion? Were we going to ask for quarterly meetings of the Green Flag group?
- LizL.** I'll add that to the letter.
- PaulT.** Should we advocate for a slip pathway?
- PaulT.** At some point we'd like to have a version of the letter for the board to review.



6. Greenways Trust

PaulS. Some board members and staffers took a tour of the woods with me yesterday. They expressed interest afterwards in seeing our film. They're inviting us to meet with donors for research on the dying ferns and hemlocks. There's a \$5,000 award that they suggested. There's a recent release of urban forest money they're tracking. It's still iffy.

PaulT. I sent you stuff from the Dept of Natural Resources Forestry Division. We will be able to apply this month. They've had 2 webinars on how to apply; there should be a 3rd one. Usually goes to larger entities like

<The room's projector spontaneously exited the Zoom meeting>

<Secretary paused note-taking to get the computer re-entered into the meeting>

7. Hemlock research

PaulS. We're developing the field protocol. We don't know the age of the dead trees. Need some kind of power-assisted version of the tool.

Nate. I'd love to help.

PaulS. We might want to leverage an iPhone app that can take tree circumference without having to take a tape measure to it.

8. Website, Movie, Fundraising

PaulS. In the past we've gotten about 10 views a day. After I put it on NextDoor and Columbia City we've gotten 200+ views a day.

PaulT. Both our \$100 donations came from that.

PaulS. One was from Maggie.

PaulT. If you're interested in something other than that, you have to scroll a lot. It might be good to have a "Click here for general information" link. The torii page is a bit outdated, showing information from before April's torii celebration.

PaulS. Give me new text and we'll put it where you want.

PaulS. I'd like to put a QR code on the chronology photo observation post.

Lizabeth. Would it be plastic?



PaulS. Coated aluminum. Would be good to get them both to the FoSP page and the chronolog page.

10. Treasurer's Report

Lizabeth. We received two \$100 donations recently. Our current bank balance is \$44,193.37.

PaulS. I sent you an invoice.

Lizabeth. Thanks for the reminder. I'll take care of it.



11. Secretary's Reports

Lizabeth. I did the September minutes. I'll send them to Ted.

Ted. I'll be sending out a draft of the minutes after the meeting. Please send any updates.



12. Book Reprint

PAULT. We have very few books left. First batch was 650. We charged \$50 and got about \$25 of that back.

LizL. Did we consider doing a paperback?

PAULT. The hardcover works better. The minimum order is now 500. We estimate it might cost \$15,000 to reprint it.

Patty. How did you sell them before?

PAULT. Website, Third Place Books, Audubon.

LizL. Can you sell it on Amazon?

PAULT. Amazon has a 40-page contract and we'd have to commit to shipping in a minimal amount of time. That means I can't go on vacation. When I get an actual price from the printer, the board can decide whether to print more.

Ted. I'm open to it. New people moving to the community will want to buy it.

Lizabeth. What about issuu.com?

Al. We can call it the "Second Edition" and get more demand. We don't have to change much.

PAULT. We can discuss doing a second edition. We'd need a new ISBN number.

Al. There are some new lichen species we could add.

Ted. When did the first edition go out?



PaulT. 2019.

Ted. There's been a fair amount that's changed since then. We had the torii opening, for one thing.

13. Good of the order

Al. There's a big burn spot in picnic shelter 3 where someone dumped their charcoal. Somebody put their grill on the picnic table.

Adjourned at 11:40am 10/14/23.

Minutes prepared by Ted Weinberg, Secretary, Friends of Seward Park