

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Kallie Haas called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

The following members were present: Kallie Haas, Ken Rochau, Paul Cathey, Kristina Haas, Debbie Hermanson, Taija Jenkins Sparkman, Trish Romza.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Kristina motioned to approve the July 2016 minutes, Kallie seconded. Kallie motioned to approve the August 2017 minutes, Ken seconded. The board will need to approve September 2016, October 2016, and November 2016 minutes at the December 2016 meeting.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Treasurer Report and Scholarship Update: Trish brought updated, new financial reports that made the records easier to understand and follow from month to month. There is about \$10,000 available for scholarships for the 2017 calendar year.
- B. Website and Social Media Update: Taija has moved all of the original website over to Word Press and is playing with the visual aspects of it. She will have the board members review the new page for edits prior to the full launch.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Halloween Decorating Contest: Debbie felt the pre-judging went well and helped narrow down the houses appropriately for the Scout troops to do the final judging. One of the Girl Scouts had a category, "I'm Not Sleeping Tonight," for the scariest house. Debbie sent out 2-for-1 passes for all the participants and will send out full prizes to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place houses. Some Scout leaders have called Debbie and reported that this event was a lot of fun and want to do it again next year. One change/improvement: get the word out earlier for the scout troops and the house participants. Debbie did send all the house information to the activities therapist at the senior housing centers in case the senior citizens wanted to go view the houses again.
- B. Cooking Decorating at Winter Wonderland: The team will check with Shawn about the supplies needed for the cookies. Improvement for this year: be sure the popcorn is ready immediately for sale, have 1 Friend making popcorn so it doesn't burn. Kallie created 3 shifts for Saturday, and 3 shifts for Sunday, and emailed 2 sponsors at Maine West High School for student volunteers. Board members began signing up for at least 1 shift; each shift needs 2 Friend board members. Cookies will

Des Plaines Friends of the Parks

MINUTES

November 7, 2016

increase from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per cookie, but popcorn will remain at \$1.00 per bag. Shawn will order 350 cookies from the bakery who supplied them last year. Trish will provide a \$150.00 start-up bank for the event. Debbie will research the cost of sprinkles at Sam's Club and Restaurant Depot. Ken will look to see if there are still tongue depressors in the supplies from last year.

- C. Other Potential Events: Debbie will contact Nancy Suwalski to see about selling popcorn or other option at the "Dance Idol" contest weekend. Kallie shared her idea of the Miniature Golf Pub Crawl as a community action plan: she is brainstorming ways to get Maine West students, the downtown Des Plaines businesses and the Friends to collaborate for this as fundraiser event.
 - D. Scholarships for Spring Soccer: Jennifer Boys spoke to Paul last week regarding the Spring Soccer registration and providing scholarships to the participants because the cost of participating is increasing. Jennifer will contact the Friends by December with more information about the specific night and what she is hoping for from the Friends.
 - E. Goals for 2017: Kallie proposed the board members create 3-4 specific, measurable goals to help the organization grow in the next calendar year. The board members collaborated, drafted and revised their ideas into these goals:
 - 1. DPFOTP will increase monthly meeting attendance by 4 attendees who will attend at least 2 meetings each by December 2017.
 - 2. DPFOTP will raise \$12,000 by December 2017.
 - 3. DPFOTP will develop one (1) new fundraiser by December 2017.
5. **Next Meeting:** Monday, December 5th, 2016 at the ALC. January's meeting will be Monday, January 9th, 2017.

Items to be discussed- Review of Winter Wonderland, Spring Soccer, Patrick Lives organization, GITD17 sponsor, food, donation requests