



**Spokane Park Board
Development & Volunteer / Citizen Advisory
Committee**
4:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 18, 2023
In-person and WebEx virtual meeting
Fianna Dickson – Marketing & Communications

Committee members:

DVCAC:

- X Kelly Brown – Chair/The Friends of Manito Park
- X Jeff Lambert / Trevor Finchamp – Friends of the Bluff
Lindsey Shaw – Community Assembly representative/Logan Neighborhood Council (excused)
- X Cole Taylor – Friends of Riverfront Park
- X Lee Williams – Friends of Coeur d 'Alene Park
- X Paul Lindholdt – Friends of Palisades
- X Stephen Williams – Spokane Disc Golf Club

DVC:

- X Jennifer Ogden – Chair/Park Board
- X Bob Anderson – Park Board
Gerry Sperling – Park Board (excused)
Doug Kelley – Park Board (excused)
- X Kelly Brown – Development & Volunteer Citizen Advisory Committee representative
- X Julie Biggerstaff – Community Assembly representative
Matt Antush – Member-at-large (excused)

Park staff

Fianna Dickson
Sarah Deatrich

Guests

Minutes

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by DVC Committee chair Jennifer Ogden. See list above for attendance.
2. **Public comment:** None
3. **DVCAC discussion items:**
 - A. Welcome new member, Stephen Williams – Kelly Brown

Kelly introduced new DVCAC member, Stephen Williams. Stephen is the founding president of the Spokane Disc Golf Club. Under an MOU with the City of Spokane, the club takes care of

downtown High Bridge Park's disc golf course. Three disc golf groups hold a monthly Disc Golf Committee meeting, where they discuss disc golf course operations. The groups take on projects at different courses, and Stephen is hopeful to bring them together and take on projects together. Stephen plans to relay information to and from the DVC/CAC and Disc Golf Committees.

B. Basecamp update – Fianna Dickson

Fianna reminded the group that members may use Basecamp to post information regarding their individual Friends groups, such as events and volunteer needs. By request, she demonstrated adding an event to the calendar and how to post a message.

4. DVCAC standing reports:

A. DVCAC member news – Kelly Brown

Friends of Coeur d'Alene Park – Lee Williams

- Spook Walk will be October 27-29 and is sold out for this year. Guides usher guests through the Browne's Addition neighborhood, relaying stories of various properties' histories.
- The Friends received a grant from Avista. The funds will be used toward connecting electricity from the street to the gazebo for outdoor concerts. They will be seeking additional funding sources to be used toward the project. This is a vital step toward attracting bigger bands and expanding their Summer Concert Series.
- The 26th annual Summer Concert Series was successful, raising approximately \$4,500 net profit.
- The Friends meet monthly with their liaison, Park Operations Director, Al Vorderbreuggen, to discuss operations and essential park maintenance.

Friends of the Bluff – Jeff Lambert / Trevor Finchamp

- Jack Nisbet and Mike McCollum from the Ice Age Flood Institute shared a presentation at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, after which the Friends led the approximately 50 attendees on a trail walk through the Bluff.
- The group is working on trail signs and are hopeful to have three or four complete before the ground freezes.
- There have been conversations with local tribes regarding a possible renaming proposal of The Bluff (for Park Board consideration).
- There is continued contact with Avista regarding their (Avista's) project at The Bluff and the Friends are helping keep the community informed of trail closures.
- On November 1, there will be a board member reunion, which will benefit the current Friends group by keeping them informed of the group's background and encouraging continued support from former board members.
- The group will perform trail work this weekend, from Bernard to 37th, to maintain safety on the steep areas in this section.
- Three lots adjacent to The Bluff are for sale and there is interest in obtaining them for conservation.

Friends of Palisades – Paul Lindholdt

- As Palisades is at greater risk of wildfire than some other Park properties, there are ongoing projects to minimize that risk and goat grazing is one of these projects.
- Palisades is experiencing increased illegal dumping and has increased cleanup efforts from once to twice a year. They are hopeful to convince the City to perform patrols to assist the Friends group in keeping the area clean.

Friends of Manito – Kelly Brown

- The Friends are preparing for Holiday Lights which is their next event.
- In January, the group will focus on fundraising for the children’s pollinator garden.

Friends of Riverfront Park – Cole Taylor

- The group is in need of membership and Cole would appreciate any referrals the committee may have. Jennifer will share some of her contacts, following the meeting. Interested parties may find more information [HERE](#).

B. EXPO+50 update – Kelly Brown

- Individual subcommittees have submitted their event proposals. The deadline has been extended for several groups who were unaware of this effort.
- Sponsorship seeking efforts continue.
- Visit Spokane will launch their EXPO+50 newsletter mid-November. Sign up [HERE](#).

5. **DVC action items**

A. None

6. **DVC discussion items**

A. Welcome new member, Doug Kelley – Jennifer Ogden

Doug could not attend tonight’s meeting, so Jennifer provided background information. Doug comes from 38 years with Avista and has an extensive non-profit board resume which includes the Sports Commission. In the past, he has also assisted the Parks Foundation with fundraising. His extensive network of contacts, board experience, and previous Parks experience makes him a valuable addition to the Park Board.

7. **DVC standing reports:**

A. Levy subcommittee update – Jennifer Ogden

Park Board voted last week, by resolution, to request the City Council place a Parks levy on the February ballot. The Park Board has not yet determined a possible partner to assist in community outreach.

Bob clarified that although a levy resolution was passed at the October 12 Park Board meeting, it is not the final step. Specific money allocations are not yet determined, and the DVC will be involved in making these decisions, should it pass City Council.

B. [Q3 volunteer report](#) – Fianna Dickson

Fianna shared the Q3 volunteer report (attached) which estimates 17,000+ volunteer hours contributed by over 3,600 volunteers. The 2023 summary report in January will provide a more accurate account.

8. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 15, 2023, in-person at the Hive events room ‘B’, 2904 E. Sprague Ave, and virtually via WebEx.

Volunteer Report
Q3 2023



By the Numbers

Group	Total Hours	# of Volunteers
TRS (Therapeutic Recreation Services)	285	16
Manito Park	230	10
Finch Arboretum	16	1
Urban Forestry	240	1
Corbin Art Center	120	20
Friends of Manito	2,000	38
Operations	214	24
Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance	25	7
Community Centers	13,000	7,000
Park Board estimated	600	10
Estimated uncaptured Friends groups	450	30
Total	17,340	3,657

Examples of projects

- Over 20 people volunteered at Corbin Art Center's Age of Elegance Reimagined event.
- Friends of Manito held their Fall Plant sale on August 26, raising money for education, preservation, and improvement projects for Manito Park.
- Eagle Scout Garrett Mosar completed his Eagle Scout week at Polly Judd Park, spreading playground bark, re-graveling pathways, and making improvements to the community garden.

Points of Light, a global volunteer mobilizing network, places an hourly value of volunteer time at \$29.95. Using that figure, our Q3 volunteer value was about \$520,000.