



**Spokane Park Board  
Development and Volunteer  
Committee meeting**  
**3 p.m. Wednesday, February 15, 2023**  
In-person and WebEx virtual meeting  
Fianna Dickson – Marketing & Communications

**Committee members**

- X Jennifer Ogden – Committee chair/Park Board
- X Bob Anderson – Park Board
  - Gerry Sperling – Park Board (absent/excused)
- X Kelly Brown – DVC Citizen Advisory Committee representative
- X Christina VerHeul – Community representative (arrived 3:06)
- X Julie Biggerstaff – Community Assembly representative
  - Rick Romero – Community at-large representative (absent/excused)

**Staff members**

Garrett Jones  
Fianna Dickson  
Kris Behr

**Summary**

- Fianna Dickson and Jennifer Ogden shared the Next Steps for Adopt a Park and Park Friends Group Project.
- Garrett Jones gave an update on EXPO+50.
- Kelly Brown gave an update on the Friends groups (DVCAC)
- Fianna Dickson presented the Fourth Quarter Volunteer Report.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 3 p.m. Mar. 15, 2023, in-person in Tribal Conference Room, City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor lobby, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., and virtually via WebEx.

## Minutes

**Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by committee chair Jennifer Ogden.

**Public comment** – None

**Action items** – None

### Discussion items

- A. Next Steps for Adopt a Park and Park Friends Group Project – Fianna Dickson & Jennifer Ogden
1. Following the Feb. 9 Park Board approval of the new policy, the committee will work on the standard application for Park Friends and Adopt-a-Park groups, the sample agreements, and the bylaws. Kelly Brown suggested the Development and Volunteer Citizen Advisory Committee (DVCAC) could work on sections of the Tool Kit project.
  2. An ongoing issue with the smaller neighborhood Friends groups is affording the insurance required by the City. Julie Biggerstaff discussed the possibility of having the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) adopt a policy in conjunction with City Council to allow a blanket policy for groups coming under them. Although short-term event-based insurance is possible and affordable, the Friends groups struggle with the expense of the long-term obligation, which is where Parks would like to see more support or have access to alternative avenues through the neighborhood councils. She has already met with the Community Assembly, Lori Kinnear, and the neighborhood liaison Amber Groe. In addition, Patrick Striker, the new director of ONS has been made aware of this issue. Lori and Breean Beggs assured Julie they will be working on this. Jennifer suggested drafting a letter of support, pointing out that this is part of the DVC Toolkit as well as a City of Spokane requirement. Garrett Jones worked with ONS to waive Park fees for neighborhood events. Julie is hoping for a collaboration with Friends groups and neighborhood councils.
  3. Jennifer suggested lucrative groups such as Friends of Manito, with successful fundraising strategies, be a role model for newer groups. She suggested documenting their efforts, such as what has worked or failed throughout the years and include that in the Toolkit.

### Standing reports

- A. EXPO+50 update – Garrett Jones
1. The committee. They have been working with the City and Visit Spokane to execute a full-time, 18-month Expo+50 Program Manager contract with Matt Santangelo. His background includes building the world's largest Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) basketball program, along with experience in healthcare, finance, and insurance. He is currently working on student athlete Name, Image, Likeness (NIL) contracts with Gonzaga University. Matt has already started making connections. He is working with David Evans, the lead engineer for Expo '74.
  2. Garrett indicated he will be signing the Novia contract on behalf of the committee this week to pay the first round of invoices. He has also been working on the internal and external framework, which Matt will be taking over. Jennifer Ogden requested Matt provide either an in-person or written monthly update during the Park Board meetings from now on.
  3. He reminded the committee of the initiatives: Embracing the past; celebrating where we are today; opportunities for the future. They are working on how to highlight these themes, which go together with the Master Plan: Land-Water-People-Legacy. The themes that will be woven

through entertainment, marketing, and branding will be arts and culture; environmental stewardship; recreation; tribal; Expo legacy. To achieve this, there will be subcommittees on each of these facets. He mentioned that Visit Spokane will be working on setting up the marketing framework.

**B. Friends groups (DVCAC) presentations update – Kelly Brown**

1. Kelly reached out to Paula from Friends of Moore-Turner and Greg about submitting their letters. Paul, from Palisades has been approved.

**C. [Quarterly Volunteer Report](#) – Fianna Dickson**

1. Most of the volunteer hours reported are coming from the community centers, which isn't necessarily a good representation of volunteers for any specific Parks activity. Notable projects include the large clean-up effort across four rugged west Spokane parks by the Washington State Geocaching Assoc. In conjunction with the SpoCanopy initiative, volunteers with Urban Forestry and the Lands Council spent nearly 400 hours on education, outreach and tree care. And topping off the holiday season was the spectacular 2022 Manito Holiday Lights Celebration, raising money for education, preservation, and improvement projects for the park.

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 3 p.m. Mar. 15, 2023, in-person in Tribal Conference Room, City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor lobby, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., and virtually via WebEx..

**Volunteer Report**  
Q4 2022



**By the Numbers**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b># of Volunteers</b>
TRS (Therapeutic Recreation Services)	194	16
Manito	100	5
Finch	28	2
Urban Forestry	374	96
Corbin Art Center	8	1
Friends of Manito	736	38
Urban Forestry	374	96
Evergreen East Mountain Bike Alliance	130	9
Community Centers	14,448	3,056
COPS	43	3
Park Board estimated	600	10
Estimated uncaptured	450	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,485</b>	<b>3,362</b>

**Examples of projects**

- The Washington State Geocaching Association held a large cleanup event in November across High Bridge Park, Indian Canyon, People's Park, and Palisades Park.
- Volunteers with Urban Forestry and The Lands Council spent nearly 400 hours on education, outreach, and tree care as part of our joint SpoCanopy initiative.
- Friends of Manito and Parks & Recreation held the 2022 Manito Holiday Lights Celebration, raising money for education, preservation, and improvement projects for Manito Park.

*Points of Light, a global volunteer mobilizing network, places an hourly value of volunteer time at \$29.95. Using that figure, our Q4 volunteer value was about \$520,000.*