

Seger Park Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Minutes for February 15, 2022

Attendees:

John Campbell (Tennis)	April Gamache (SPAC President)
Jody Dimitruk (SPAC Treasurer)	Sharri Horowitz (Playground)
Greg Frangipani (Parks & Rec Leader)	Yvonne Novak (SPAC Vice President)
Lisa (Philadelphia Parks and Rec District Manager)	

January meeting was cancelled, so elections will take place before the end of tonight's meeting. meeting

PARKS AND REC DEPARTMENT UPDATES (Greg)

- Greg introduced Lisa, the PPR District Manager
- New policy for Rec Centers – must be staffed by at least 2 people if open during the evening hours (5-9 pm) – this means that Seger's Rec Center will be closed at 5 on Mondays and Fridays through April so that Greg can provide support for other Rec Centers on those evenings
- Bathrooms and the front door of the Seger Rec Center were painted by the city
- Greg will accept reservation memberships for the tennis/pickleball courts beginning April 1

FRIENDS OF SEGER PARK PLAYGROUND (FOSPP)

- Still looking for best approach to repair or replace playground surface
- City has not been able to find a vendor to repair the surface or replace it for an affordable price
- Sharri and Chris will continue to work with Megan and Artificial Lawns to see if they can become an approved vendor

BASKETBALL AND TENNIS COURT RESURFACING PROJECTS

- April announced a \$25k grant from Washington West Trust to go toward the resurfacing of the Basketball courts as these were the area identified as the highest need when the request was made in spring 2021
- Councilman Squilla has agreed to provide additional funding, but the amount is not certain – generally, he is willing to match funds raised locally
- We may have enough in the SPAC account to complete the renovation of bot sets of courts, but it would not leave much for ongoing operations

MISCELLANEOUS

Andrew is out of town this week, but shared updated via email:

- No issues at the dog park
- Andrew will manage installation of the 100th Anniversary sign when he returns
- Andrew will share the details on how SPDOA prices and manages advertising banners inside the dog park so we can consider how to solicit advertising for the outside of the tennis courts

FINANCIAL REPORT

- SPAC bank balance from January statement is \$54,395
- Expenses included monthly internet and the balance for the 100th Anniversary signage
- Received check from Wash West Trust for \$25k for Basketball court resurfacing

- Reviewed and agreed on text to use to request contributions for basketball and tennis court renovation (see below)

ELECTIONS FOR SPAC OFFICERS

Candidates for 2022-2023 officers were introduced (all are incumbents in their respective roles):

- April Gamache – President
- Yvonne Novak – Vice President
- Jody Dimitruk – Treasurer
- OPEN: Secretary

Meeting attendees all met the eligibility criteria for voting, and each cast a secret ballot on paper indicating their support for a candidate for each position. Sharri Horowitz counted the votes and announced the results.

Note: the SPAC Secretary role is open – if you are interested or you know someone who might be interested, here is the role description:

Secretary

1. Attends meetings and keeps an accurate report of all the business of the Advisory Council, including meeting attendance and election results, and shares these minutes at the subsequent meeting.
2. Ensures that adequate public notice is given for all meetings, elections, and other Advisory Council functions.
3. Retains all reports and documents of the Advisory Council.
4. Prepares correspondence as directed by the President.
5. Ensures that PPR facility supervisor has copies of required Advisory Council reports.

Yvonne (yvonnenovak@yahoo.com) would be happy to answer any questions about the role.

Next meeting: March 16 at 7 PM

Seeger Park Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Minutes for March 15, 2022 (corrected April 19, 2022)

Attendees:

Jody Dimitruk (Treasurer)	April Gamache (President)
Greg Frangipani (Rec Leader)	Chris Morello (Playground)
Andrew Friedman (Dog Park, Pickleball)	Yvonne Novak (Vice President)
Nancy Friedman	Betty Kilkelly

SEGER PARK DOG OWNERS' ASSOCIATION (SPDOA)

- Applied for Woofstock permits
- Will run from the first week in June to the last week in August
- New ice cream vendor
- A lot of new people – asking people to sign up for paid dog park membership

GARDENING

- Dog park would like to fund effort to replant the beds along 11th and Lombard and install a temporary fence to protect the young plants from traffic
- SPAC board approved

100th ANNIVERSARY SIGN

- Tried to install the sign on Feb 25, but could not drill through old cobblestone; recommendation was to install a plate that they can attach it to -- another \$1700 (additional to the cost of the sign)
- We asked Andrew to meet with the individual who created the sign to consider other locations which could be used at a lower cost

PICKLEBALL

- This is the 9th year of pickleball at Seeger and Andrew reported increasing demand
- Andrew requested that the SPAC Board authorize a third night for PB play (no reservations can be offered at this time; PB Meet Up group already offers play for \$5 per person on Sunday and Thursdays from 7-9 pm)
- After discussion with Greg, determined that Saturday nights are the least in demand for reservations, so Andrew will confirm interest in the group in Saturday night play

FRIENDS OF SEGER PARK PLAYGROUND (FOSPP)

- Bucket swing is gone from the park – Greg is following up with the city to see if it has been removed (because it was broken) and can be replaced
- Tetherball is up and in use
- Chris received clearance from Megan Funk to proceed with discussions with Artificial Lawns regarding the repair and replacement of the safety surface on the playground
 - City approved our use as they do not have a vendor with comparable pricing
- Chris reached out to Artificial Lawns to confirm pricing

- Artificial Lawns agreed to sign the City's Donated Services Agreement and to provide their insurance information
- Megan will coordinate a city inspector to monitor during the installation
- FOSPP has ~\$50k in their checking and another \$50k invested in the Philadelphia Foundation
 - Estimated cost for the repair and overlay is about \$65k
 - It has not been easy to get answers from the Philadelphia Foundation regarding release of the dollars invested there – Chris will continue to follow up to request the funds
 - The SPAC Board offered to help (additional calls, grant requests, etc.) if needed

TENNIS COURT RESERVATION MEMBERSHIPS

- Sign-ups for court memberships will begin April 1 (note: individuals can pay \$50 per year for the privilege to reserve a tennis court for one hour at a time; reservations are made at the start of each week by calling Greg in the Rec Center)
- 2021 tennis membership was about 160 members
- Greg takes a limited number of new members each year – previous members are always eligible to renew their membership
- Greg was asked to track for each reservation membership (at the time of payment) if the individual intends to play tennis, pickleball or both

BASKETBALL AND TENNIS COURT RENOVATIONS

- Renovation is proceeding with the support of the city and funding from SPAC and Councilman Mark Squilla – estimated cost is \$160k for resurfacing, new line painting
- Confirmed with the City that for the selected contractor has provided proof of their insurance and signed a new Donated Services Agreement is not needed
 - We will add information about the contractor/contract/warranty to SPAC meeting notes before the project is complete so the information is accessible to SPAC officers/members in the future
- While SPAC should have enough funds to cover this project with the support from Councilman Squilla, we agreed to ask the community if they want to contribute to this project – see the recommended wording for the funding request in italics below:
 - John Sharp agreed to send to the tennis email list
 - April will post on Facebook
 - Andrew will share with the pickleball Meet Up list and with Wash West Civic association
- We do not have a start date yet, but estimate it will take 2+ months to execute once the project begins

The Seger Park Advisory Council (SPAC) is looking to raise additional funds to support renovation of the basketball and tennis courts this spring.

In 2020, SPAC did a comprehensive review of the facilities at Seger and, with input from the Philadelphia Parks and Rec department, identified the basketball courts as the highest priority for investment. During 2021, SPAC worked to raise funds -- successfully securing contributions from Washington West Trust and Councilman Mark Squilla -- so that we could resurface the basketball courts and continue to facilitate the maintenance of all other areas of the park. Members of the community spoke up in 2021 and indicated significant interest in accelerating plans to resurface the tennis courts at the same time.

We are committed to adding the tennis courts to the project and need your help to raise additional funds needed to complete both projects. We hope to sell advertising space on the court windscreens to raise some additional funds, but this future stream of funding is uncertain. We are confident that you are as eager as we are to get the work started on the courts.

You may be aware that SPAC considered increasing the cost for tennis/pickleball membership that enables court reservations in 2021, with an eye toward funding future tennis court renovations, but backed off from that approach after complaints. So, while we will freeze the annual membership fee at \$50, we are asking for voluntary donation of any amount to facilitate the court renovation projects this spring. Donations of any amount can be made via cash or check [CONFIRM] delivered to Greg Frangipani (Seger's Recreation Leader) in the Seger Rec Center (INSERT HOURS THAT GREG IS THERE). Any amount donated at this time will be earmarked specifically for basketball and tennis court renovations (you can choose how you want your donation directed).

OTHER ITEMS

- Andrew asked whether LED lighting for tennis and basketball could be added to the renovations
 - April said she will follow up on her October 2021 email to Tom Digman, who indicated that the City's Skilled Trades could install LED bulbs
- April, Yvonne, and Jody will review the information that Andrew shared regarding sales of advertising banners to secure additional funding for SPAC activities; advertising would be added to the funding surrounding the newly renovated courts

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current bank balance is \$79,303. This includes:

- \$25k grant recently acquired from the Washington West Trust granted specifically for the basketball Court renovation
- \$30k that SPAC set aside 2 years ago for basketball court renovations (note: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR) limits the total amount that Advisory Councils can maintain in back accounts unless they are specifically accumulating funds for a long-term project)
- Another \$5k will be required from the SPAC account to make up the portion of the Basketball and Tennis court renovations, when combined with \$100K we have requested from Councilman Mark Squilla (we have secured his commitment for this funding)
- After the court renovations, SPAC will have approximately \$15k remaining, and agree to set aside \$10k in reserve for the replacement of the safety surface (see FOSPP above)

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 19 at 7 PM

Seeger Park Advisory Committee (SPAC) Minutes for April 19, 2022

Attendees

John Campbell	April Gamache Meidt (SPAC President)
Jody Dimitruk (SPAC Treasurer)	Yvonne Novak (SPAC VP and Secretary)
Andrew Freedman (SPDOA)	Tom Schoelkoph
Nancy Freedman	John Sharp
Greg Frangipani (PPR Rec Center Leader)	Jude

April called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

SPDOA

- Woofstock has received a permit for events in Seeger this summer, including an alcohol permit
- Every Tuesday, June 7th - August 30th from 5:30 - 7:30
- Tom S has a donated case of cider; he will drop it off for the first event

Gardening

- Planting complete, with fencing. No reported issues with fence in play areas.

100th Anniversary Sign

- Sign has been delivered, waiting for a revised invoice to remove the \$1,695 installation fee
- Andrew and friend will install with concrete post (same approach to installing the tetherball pole); remit any receipts to SPAC for reimbursement.

FOSPP

- Swing was removed because it was broken
- Greg will ask about where/how to get a replacement
- Andrew purchased new tether balls; receipt to be submitted

Maintenance

- City took care of the tree trimming (no cost to SPAC)
- No other maintenance issues

Pickleball

- 10th year of pickleball playing (Thursday, Saturday, Sunday)
- Wait list some nights
- Greg is keeping track of P or T with membership sign ups

Tennis and Reservation Memberships

- Approx. 34 renewals, 90 new members
- Greg received donations for the court renovation totaling \$1,986
- Yvonne to create a TY note and confirm if donations to SPAC are tax deductible
- \$59 for replacement rollers from Everyone's Racquet – get 2 (\$118); Jody will give a check to Greg and John S. or John C. will drop it off and pick up the rollers

- Tennis ladder will begin the first weekend in June

Basketball and Tennis Court Renovations

- Anticipate a price increase (from \$160,000)
- Will try to include LED lighting (another \$10k) at the same time of the renovation
- Not just recovering the surface – it will be milled
- Area behind the Rec Center is not in scope at this time
- April has been following up with Megan Funk and will ask when the work will start (will we have warning?) and how long it will take
- Once the new courts are complete, we will solicit advertisers to hang banners on the outside of the tennis fence; Andrew has shared his expertise and the approach used for the dog park

Financials

- \$79,241 (does not include tennis reservation payments)
 - \$72 expenditure for the internet connection

NEW BUSINESS

Love Your Park on May 7th 8:30-10:30 am

- Rakes, bags, brooms will be delivered
- Andrew will connect with McCall School for additional volunteers
- Everyone is encouraged and welcome

Outreach to Mural Arts for a mural on the Rec Center

- Andrew will find out cost, maintenance, design decisions (what does community input look like)

Consider Additional Pickleball Capacity

- Conversation was had as to the possibility of adding lines to BB court to provide an additional place for pickleball; however, the City previously measures and concluded there is not enough space
- Consider additional court behind the Rec Center? – considered in the past but need to raise funds; will not be part of this renovation

April Meeting Notes

- April 2022 SPAC meeting notes were distributed at the start of the meeting (thank you, April)
- Notes were reviewed and approved with one correction – in the financial report, \$30k for basketball court renovation was set aside two years ago by SPAC, not SPDOA

Andrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded at 8:15 pm.

Seeger Park Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Minutes for May 25, 2022

Attendees

John Campbell Andrew Freedman (SPDOA) Nancy Freedman Greg Frangipani (PPR Rec Center Leader) Sharri Horowitz (FOSPP)	April Gamache Meidt (SPAC President) Chris Morello (FOSPP) Yvonne Novak (SPAC VP and Secretary) Diane Olsen
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Renovation Project

- Waiting for notice from the city and contractor about the start date – pending timing of delivery of backboards/poles
- Expect the project to take 8-10 weeks (conservatively, 10-12 weeks)
- Megan is also following up to see if the lighting can be replaced with LEDs (the city is supporting LEDs, but is focusing first on facilities)

New Donors/Donor Requests

- Andrew found two potential donors interested in donating for benches with recognition plaques
- Andrew also found an individual willing to make a significant donation (\$17,500 to cover the increase in the total renovation price from the original estimate) – this donor is looking to have “naming rights”
- April will contact Megan to see what’s required and follow up with the donor

Playground/FOSPP

- Chris received acknowledgement from the Philadelphia Foundation of the funds held there for FOSPP (\$30k+)
- Also have \$60k+ in bank account (exact amount to be confirmed)
- Waiting for revised contract for replacement of the playground safety surface with updated pricing from Artificial Lawns – expect it to be higher than the earlier bid, but funding should be adequate
- Need to confirm who needs to sign the contract – Chris will reach out to Megan
- PPR will send someone to supervise while the work is being done
- Expect it to take about a week to complete the work
- The new surface will cover the tot lot and big kid lot; expect to fill in holes and then cover the entire surface (note, despite the name of the vendor, this will not be artificial turf, but similar to the existing spongy surface in these areas)
- New swing has been ordered; FOSPP paid the \$925 for the new swing and Greg submitted the order and payment

100th Anniversary Sign

- Initial estimate included delivery and installation as well as the cost of the manufacturing the sign; the vendor tried to install the sign but could not because of cobblestones under the planned installation site. They Recommended a different installation for an additional charge, but we did not want to spend that much if we had an alternative

- Had to redeliver the sign (which resulted in an added \$250 charge)
- Andrew and a friend successfully installed the sign; Andrew needs to submit request for reimbursement of materials/supplies
- April made a motion to approve payment of the final invoice; Yvonne seconded
- Yvonne will follow up with Jody to issue the check for the final payment (\$3,005)

Dog Park/SPDOA

- Tuesday, June 1 is first of 12 Woofstock events
- Pop Shop will be there to sell popsicles
- Magic Garden will set up a table at the event
- Wash West will partner with SPDOA to install poop bag stations in Wash West; start with a test program of 5 dispensers
- SPDOA will fund it, and Wash West will manage the operation

Pickleball

- 9th season
- Beginners are invited on Sat nights (not a class, and need to understand rules, scoring, etc.)
- People sign up via Meet up
- Participants are paying \$5 per person (about 24 people out there tonight); money (minus Meetup fees) are going into SPAC funds

Court Reservations Memberships

- 60 renewals and 93 new members = \$7,650; many of the new members are interested in pickleball
- 21 people donated between \$20 and \$1,000 dollars to support the renovations, totaling \$2,206
- All of these funds will be deposited in the SPAC account to be used for SPAC=approved projects

Maintenance

- Light bulb that was out was replaced (by the city)
- Two trees were removed (by the city)

Rec Center and Summer Programming

- City facilities will be closed for Juneteenth on June 2-
- Darleen starts June 21
- Water in the spray ground will be on:
 - Sat, Sun and holidays, noon to 5 (starting this weekend)
 - Starting June 20, on every weekday 11 am-7 pm
- Ping Pong will be available in the Rec Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 pm

Treasurer's Report/Financials

- Expenses paid since the April SPAC meeting were \$118 for new rollers for the tennis courts
- SPAC share of total renovation cost is expected to be \$77,500, based on the updated estimate

Seeger Park Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Minutes for June 21, 2022

Attendees

Jody Dumitruk (SPAC Treasurer) Nancy Freedman Greg Frangipani (PPR Rec Center Leader)	April Gamache Meidt (SPAC President) Yvonne Novak (SPAC VP and Secretary)
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Renovation Project

- Project began [insert date]
- As of the meeting, they had removed 2.5 inches of the existing surface of the tennis courts, basketball courts, and the area to the north of the tennis courts (near the Rec center). The plan is for them to open up/fill the cracks and they overlay a new asphalt surface. The asphalt needs to cure between layers.
- Tennis lines will be painted in white, pickleball lines will be painted in green and blue [REFERENCE]. The lines on the basketball court will be complementary.
- The basketball standards (pole that hold the backboards) will be removed and replaced. We do not know what materials will be used for the new backboards.
- Andrew had 2 banners created and hung to indicate that the courts are being renovated, with not specific time period. April put the same information out on the FB page and in the Wash West newsletter.
- After reviewing the area, everyone agreed we should ask whether the area to the north of the tennis courts (already dug up) could also be resurfaced (perhaps to be used for a permanent pickleball court?) April agreed to reach out to Megan to request a quote for this work.
- Megan is also following up to see if the lighting can be replaced with LEDs (the city is supporting LEDs but is focusing first on facilities).
- Next month (July) we should plan a re-opening event to thank donors, including Councilman Squilla. (It would not necessarily be on the first day the courts are re-opened).
- April will develop and source a plaque to acknowledge the family that made the large donation to cover the shortfall after the cost was increased.
- Yvonne suggested that we try to get a copy of the proposal/invoice for the work so that we have a specific record of the work, the vendor, the cost, and any warranty to include in SPAC/facility records (so that we have a complete record for future reference/new officers).
- Concerns were raised that those who paid for a reservation membership might be upset that the tennis/pickleball courts are closed for a period this summer. We agreed that anyone who asks should be directed to Greg. Greg can offer to carry over the membership payment until next summer (2023) if the individual would prefer to do that (but then cannot reserve courts in 2022).

Dog Park/SPDOA

- Third Woofstock even is taking place (at the same time as the meeting), and attendance is strong. Andrew was not in attendance at the meeting and Nancy provided updates.

- City came and cleaned the drain the dog park in response to flooding in the entryway (this happens when the water feature is running for a while). It's likely that the drain will need to be cleaned periodically to keep it functioning.
- Nancy also reported that the white string lights hung around the park will be removed because the way that they are hung is harmful to the trees (according to the company that recently handled tree trimming – paid for my SPDOA). The lights will not be replaced/rehung as they are also expensive to maintain.

Playground/FOSPP

- Swing was replaced in the tot lot (City installed, SPAC paid for the swing and hardware).
- April will reach out to Chris and Sharri for an update on the playground
- ANY UPDATE TO INCLUDE HERE? – LAST MONTH'S NOTES ARE BELOW
 - *Chris received acknowledgement from the Philadelphia Foundation of the funds held there for FOSPP (\$30k+)*
 - *Also have \$60k+ in bank account (exact amount to be confirmed)*
 - *Waiting for revised contract for replacement of the playground safety surface with updated pricing from Artificial Lawns – expect it to be higher than the earlier bid, but funding should be adequate*
 - *Need to confirm who needs to sign the contract – Chris will reach out to Megan*
 - *PPR will send someone to supervise while the work is being done*
 - *Expect it to take about a week to complete the work*
 - *The new surface will cover the tot lot and big kid lot; expect to fill in holes and then cover the entire surface (note, despite the name of the vendor, this will not be artificial turf, but similar to the existing spongy surface in these areas)*

100th Anniversary Sign

- Jody completed the final payment to the vendor

Pickleball

- A check for \$1,432 was given to SPAC from the pickleball group – this amount reflects the \$5 per person per night fee collected from the Meet Up events, minus the cost of Meet Up and other PB supplies and \$1,000 held in reserve).

Rec Center and Summer Programming

- Water in the spray ground is on:
 - Sat, Sun and holidays, noon to 5 pm
 - Weekdays, 11 am-7 pm
- Ping Pong will be available in the Rec Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 pm

Treasurer's Report/Financials

- Expenses paid since the May SPAC meeting were \$3,005 for the final sign invoice
- Receipts included donation for court renovation (\$17,500)
- Total balance as of 6.21 was \$102k
- SPAC share of total renovation cost is expected to be \$77,500, based on the updated estimate. We will also incur costs for the repairs to the playground surface.