General Meeting/Gathering

Friends for Landa Park

April 12, 2021

At Founders Oak in Landa Park

Tim Barker, club president, greeted attendees. There were 18 people in attendance.

This was Friends’ first meeting in over a year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Tim asked us to each introduce ourselves and say a few words about our interests, background, etc. Several attendees were from local garden clubs or Master Gardeners. It was nice to see some new faces!

Johnny Sevier introduced himself, explaining he has been an arborist for 45 years. He is offering his help to remove the ball moss from Founders Oak and perhaps one other tree. Thank you, Johnny!

Carol Cochran announced she was part of Merry Makers, a crafting group held at Merry Saegert’s home on Mondays in case anyone is interested in being crafty!

Michael Buley, club VP calls himself a “master naturalist” and Master Gardener. He also happens to be a retired Army Veterinarian.

Tim Barker, club President calls himself an “old house enthusiast”, loves his terraced garden on his property across from Landa Park which dates back to the 1880s. His wife, Elisabet, is from Sweden, and they are celebrating 50 years of marriage this year! Congratulations! Tim’s walk in the park daily was the original reason for the “birth” of Friends for the Preservation of Historic Landa Park. Thank you, Tim!

We discussed Friends’ contributions for the past 12 years, such as the wonderful sidewalk that was installed on Gazebo Circle, the park benches donated in honor of Dolores & William Schumann, Joyce & William Kolodzie, and Marie Offerman. The newest contribution made by Friends is the beautiful butterfly bench placed in the Landa Family Memorial butterfly garden. NB Parks & Recreation were generous to also donate a second butterfly bench. Two hardworking members of Lindheimer Master Naturalists and also Native Plant Society of Texas, Jane Miller and Gail Groves tackled old weeds, cleaned things up in the flowerbed and new butterfly-attracting plants have been planted! A dedication of the benches will be held at a later date to honor the authors of the book *New Braunfels’ Historic Landa Park: Its Springs and Its People,* Rosemarie Leissner Gregory and Arlene Krueger Seales.

The Landa Park book is for sale for $45 at the Parks Office.

Upcoming events were discussed:

* Labor Day, Sept 6, 2021 the Downtown Rotary is sponsoring a Community Breakfast in honor of New Braunfels’ 175th Anniversary (all events had to be cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions). This event will be held at the park dance slab. Friends may participate by being docents at Founders Oak, Pioneer Monument and the Landa Park Marker.
* Friends General Meeting, Monday, Sept 13, 2021 at 3pm.
* Burial of 175th Anniversary Time Capsule, to be held Sunday, Nov 14, 2021 (last day of Wurstfest). Friends are a “Pioneer” Sponsor and will be donating our BOOK , along with the 2 supplements and Arboretum Tree Guide to be included in this Time Capsule.

Some of the attendees with “green thumbs” brought gardening tools and rakes to clean up the flower bed in front of Founders Oak. Periwinkle will be planted at a later date.

Tim thanked everyone for attending.