

September 9, 2015

The Galena Foundation proposes to partner with the City of Galena to make improvements to Grant Park. In general, this work will include the development of a master plan for the improvement of the park prepared by a licensed Landscape Architect, a tree inventory prepared by a Certified Arborist, and research of the park's plantings using historic information and photography. The work of the project is intended to improve the appearance and appeal of Grant Park as a venue to be enjoyed by people living and visiting Galena, reduce maintenance costs for the City, and promote public involvement in the maintenance of plantings in Grant Park. There is a long history of strong public involvement in the maintenance of Grant Park and a very positive feeling in Galena that Grant Park is an asset to the community. The Galena Foundation intends to commit available funds to support the project. It is the intention of the Galena Foundation that it will take on 100% of the effort to develop this project by undertaking the development of the master plan and tree inventory, followed by the prioritization of improvements to be made to the park. Once this prioritization is established, funding will be obtained for the improvements. It is contemplated that improvements to plantings including both annuals and perennials around the fountain and in the various planting beds will be the first improvement. Currently, there is no cost estimate for the improvements. This will become available once the master plan and tree inventory are completed. The Galena Foundation Board of Directors, at their August 28, 2015 meeting, approved the development of this Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Galena and the hiring of the Certified Arborist to complete his work prior to leaves falling this fall.

The following is a list of the items that make up the scope of the improvement project:

- Park improvement master plan describing proper sight lines and traffic patterns that will reduce damage during events like Country Fair; plantings; improvements of all permanent structures such as pergola; best layout of benches; cannons; sidewalk improvements; entrance improvements, etc. Preservation of Johnson Street and its use will also be addressed. Also to be addressed will be other potential uses of areas in the park that are underutilized.
- Tree inventory to identify all existing trees and their condition. It will recommend replacement, trimming, and/or reduction in the number of trees. It will also identify disease, including the potential for Emerald Ash Borer infestation.
- Improvements to plantings will then commence. A minimalist approach will be pursued with the focus on perennials and annuals that are planted seasonally.
- A community effort to 'adopt' planting beds in the park will again be established. Funds for planting materials could come from the James O'Bel Trust administered by the Galena Foundation.
- Galena Foundation will continue to fund the maintenance of the fountain through its Fountain Fund.
- Galena Foundation will improve signage related to the cannons with remaining funds in the Cannon Fund.
- Other projects could be funded by other funds from the Galena Foundation, the City's portion of the gate proceeds from Country Fair which are earmarked for parks

improvements, and general fundraising in the community spearheaded by The Galena Foundation with support from the City of Galena.

The following is how we envision the project being developed:

- City of Galena commits to the project in September 2015 through City Council approval.
- Jon Kelly of Mississippi Valley Tree Specialists, Certified Arborist, will be retained by The Galena Foundation to perform the tree inventory. This information will be incorporated into the master plan.
- David Greibe, licensed Landscape Architect and Galena Native, will be retained by The Galena Foundation to develop the Master Plan. Members of the Galena Community will be encouraged to participate in the development of the master plan to promote ongoing community development and to preserve the history of Grant Park. Greibe was the landscape architect for the Soldiers Memorial on Riverside Drive. He and his wife are Legacy Members of The Galena Foundation. Community meetings will be held at City Hall and in Grant Park as appropriate.
- Country Fair has provided a layout of booths and other features that will be used in developing the master plan. City of Galena will provide the existing GPS map of the park for the tree inventory. If available, City of Galena will provide a topographical drawing of Grant Park. Marsden to coordinate with Andy Lewis and David Greibe on this matter. Galena Foundation has researched some of the history of Grant Park and provided that information to Greibe.
- The Galena Foundation and the City of Galena will support the efforts of volunteers who "adopt" plantings throughout the park. City of Galena will provide water and electricity to support this effort. The Galena Foundation will provide plants and related materials.
- Should the restoration of Johnson Street proceed, the City of Galena has indicated that they have brick pavers in stock that can be used for the restoration. Johnson Street is currently protected by city ordinance as the last brick street in Galena.
- City of Galena will continue to maintain the park including such items as mowing, snow removal, and general upkeep of the park.

The Galena Foundation looks forward to working with the City of Galena to produce another successful project. Thank you for the opportunity to work with the City of Galena to advance historic preservation in our community and to provide affordable cultural amenities that will be enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Marsden

President, The Galena Foundation

Accepted by: City of Galena

Mayor Terry Renner Terry Renner Date: 9-29-15