**THE FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON GROVE INC. (FoWG) 2016 WORK PLAN**

| **Category** | **Proposed Actions/Milestones** |
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| **Trail Maintenance and Stabilization; Entry Redesign** | * Participate on trial improvement and entrance redesign steering committee. * Create a trails map based on final consultancy recommendations. * Work with City to identify funding sources for trail and entry revitalization. Write grant proposals as appropriate. * Schedule multiple volunteer work days to spread wood chips. |
| **Control of Invasive Plants** | * Organize and manage work parties to implement long-term plan for removal of invasive species. * Work with Monroe County Water Authority to begin removing Norway Maples and other invasive trees from their property. * FoWG and Forestry Dept. will identify Norway Maples for possible removal along top of Cobbs Hill Park slope and replacement of Norway Maples within Cobbs Hill Park. * Work with City to identify and develop strategies for treating trees in hemlock grove for woolly adelgid. |
| **Planting of Native Trees/Shrubs/ Herbaceous Layer** | * Plant in Spring & Fall:   + Plant shrubs and sub-trees using available *Reforest Rochester* funds through City.   + Plant seedlings and herbaceous layer plans funds raised by FoWG. * Experiment with protective fencing for some plantings to discourage damage by deer and other wildlife. Keep records of success. * Consolidate a shared record of past planting locations and success rates. * Assess status of previous plantings, and prune trees & shrubs to support healthy growth |
| **Park Visitation** | * Continue to work with the City to strengthen protocols to effectively communicate City code and park rules related to the Grove. * Continue to maintain kiosk at reservoir entrance to Grove. * Structure tours to include tours for volunteers on work days, free tours through City Living program, and other paid special tours for individual clubs. * Train interested volunteers to give tours; create tip sheet and other materials. |
| **Outreach/ Communication/ Education** | * Build on relationship with the Monroe County Water Authority to recruit assistance in, and extend, invasive removal. * Maintain volunteer recruitment strategy that builds and sustains relationships with multiple organizations, and with Recreation Dept. Schedule work dates based on their availability and supervise volunteers. Develop strategies to attract a more diverse pool of volunteers. * Develop a website presence with WG history, mission, etc. and to advertise volunteer work days, tours, special tour opportunities, and request donations. * Create FoWG informational brochure. * Complete preparation of black oak “cookie” for educational display in the Grove |
| **City Partnership** | * Meet with city officials in winter to review prior year outcomes based on goals and to gain agreement on goals for current year. * Document and implement all contact processes related to organizing volunteer events. * Schedule tours of the Grove for Mayor and Commissioners of DES and DRYS. |
| **Longer Term** | * Initiate mapping projects to include comprehensive record of plantings, tree survey, and City demarcation of WG legal boundaries. * Explore collection and distribution of wildflower seeds within Washington Grove. * Be open to special projects and recruit people to do and lead these (e.g. Eagle Scouts). * Continue to network with other park stewardship groups, restoration groups, and interested scientists and historians. |