



Around the Square

F R I E N D S O F R I T T E N H O U S E S Q U A R E

STATE of the SQUARE

President's Message

It was a tremendously busy spring on the Square. You'll read all about it in this issue of Around the Square

We have important news about the future of the Square. At a special meeting on



July 15, the board of directors of the Friends voted overwhelmingly to hire Dan Biederman of Biederman Redevelopment Ventures to research, analyze and re-envision the Square. A well-known visionary in urban planning and design, Dan specializes in transforming parks. The best-known example of his work is Bryant Park in New York City (both similar to and different from our Square). His experience also includes parks throughout the United States and abroad.

For six months, Dan's group will study Rittenhouse Square, concluding in a report of findings and recommendations. Most of the funds for his fee have been privately raised by members of the Friends. Check our website, www.friendsofrittenhouse.org, for updates on the work of Dan's group throughout the next six months.

In Rittenhouse Square, imagine children sailing boats at the reflecting pool. Envision pebbles instead of pavement, outdoor story hours at the goat, tasteful signage that describes our statues. During this time of economic bad news, imagine a constant stream of financial support from the private sector to fund the Square's future needs.

These dreams and many more can be made reality, as we re-invent the Square and secure its future in new and exciting ways.

In Friendship,

Wendy Rosen
President