

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 1/5/2023 (7 – 7:40 PM) In-Person and via Zoom

Attendees (10): The meeting was hybrid: a combination of in-person and zoom session.

In-Person (9): Jim Fennell, Nancy van Arkel, Joan Markoe, Sandra Owens, Suzanne Cross, Bob Strunk, Sherry Claypool, Marion Parkinson, and Grace Hanrahan.

Zoom (1): Ed Boehner.

Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the December meeting were approved.

Calendar of Events:

January Clean-up	Saturday 1/14/2023	10 AM	Monthly clean-up
February Meeting	Thursday 2/2/2023	7 PM	Monthly meeting
February Clean-up	Saturday 2/11/2023	10 AM	Monthly clean-up

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported:

PNC Bank Statement for Period 12/01/2022-12/30/2022

Beginning Balance	\$33,823.90	
Deposits	\$124.01	(All from dues/donations)
Deductions	\$110.85	
Ending Balance	\$33,837.06	

Deductions

Deductions totaling \$110.85 were:

Birthday Party Supplies	\$ 8.10
Birthday Party Drinks	\$30.22
Birthday Cake	\$72.53

Park Clean-up: For the January clean-up, Nancy van Arkel suggested that the group focus on trimming the mulberry bushes and pruning the vines on the south-side of the park. An additional set of loppers are needed for this project.

Park Maintenance: Jim Fennell reported two park lights that went out were quickly repaired by Parks and Recreation. Jim has not received an update on the bench replacement on the southwest park entrance. Parks-on-Tap has promised to replace the bench which was destroyed accidentally by their setup crew.

Administrative Matters: Jim Fennell reported that we have not yet been told how much money we will receive from Parks-on-Tap. The annual application to be the Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park was completed by Jim Fennell and Nancy van Arkel. They also reserved Saturday 10/28, with a rain date of Sunday 10/29, for the annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event.

Park Signs: The estimated cost for the new park signs is about \$4,490, plus \$2,200 to place them in the ground. If we plan to get two signs, for both the 18th and 19th street entrances, the cost will run about

\$13,000. Jim verified that the signs are double-sided. We will have to sign a contract through Parks & Recreation with the contractor. To see a sample of the new park sign design, visit the Maja Sculpture Park at 22nd Street on the Parkway.

Annual Financial Report: Before Joan Markoe starts the 2022 Annual Financial Report, she will circulate last year's 2021 Financial Report to the board and membership committee members for their comments and possible suggestions for improvement on the format.

Membership Report: Marion Parkinson reported:

167	Total Members
105	Renewals
62	New

Although our fiscal year runs from January through December, memberships last from April through March. Memberships will last for 15 months, for members who join from January through March.

Neighborhood News: A GI colon cleansing center is moving into the vacant store on 19th Street next to the bike shop. A Montessori school from St. Clements is planned for the lower-level ramp in Rodin's.

Slippery Leaves: Although we do not plan to clean-up all the fallen leaves, at a member's suggestion, the leaves on the northern pathway will be removed as part of the January clean-up to prevent falls. For the future, Bob Strunk suggested that we investigate the possibility of renting a rechargeable battery-operated leaf blower.

Website News: In this month's history article, Joe Walsh discusses the many interesting military historical references in the neighborhood:

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/military-in-the-neighborhood-1>

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM. Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.