

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 11/3/2022 (7 – 7:45P M) In-Person and via Zoom

Attendees (13): The meeting was hybrid: a combination of in-person and zoom session.

In-Person (8): Jim Fennell, Sandra Owens, Suzanne Cross, Bob Strunk, Nancy van Arkel, Joan Markoe, Sherry Claypool, and Grace Hanrahan.

Zoom (5): Ed Boehner, Jan Roberts, Sandie Farrell, Michele Frey, and Mickey Frey.

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

Calendar of Events:

“Love Your Park” Day	Saturday 11/12/2022	10 AM	Park clean-up
	Rain Date 11/13/2022		
December Meeting	Thursday 12/1/2022	7 PM	Monthly meeting
December Clean-up	Saturday 12/10/2022	10 AM	Monthly clean-up

“Love Your Park Day”: “Love Your Park Day” is Saturday 11/12 at 10 AM, with a possible rain date of Sunday 11/13. The main project will be the removal of the dying sunflower and bachelor buttons on the eastern side which were planted this year in honor of the Ukraine. Volunteers should bring their own gloves and equipment. Pruning shears are needed. Parks & Recreation will supply us with paper bags for garden cuttings and plastic bags for trash.

Matthias Baldwin Birthday: At the December 1st meeting, we will have light refreshments to celebrate Baldwin’s 227th Birthday. Baldwin was born on December 10th, 1795. Sandy Owens will post Baldwin’s Birthday Banner in the park for the month of December.

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe reported:

PNC Bank Statement for Period October 1, through October 31, 2022

Beginning Balance	\$34,357.31	
Deposits	\$ 119.02	(all from membership dues and donations)
Deductions	\$ 89.23	
Ending Balance	\$ 34,387.10	

Deductions: \$25.00 for the permit for Howl-O-Ween and \$64.23 for stamps for the Little Free Library.

Membership Report: Joan Markoe reported for Marion Parkinson who was unable to attend:

Membership

Total Members	164
New	59
Renewing	105

Amount Collected

Membership Dues	\$ 9,995.00
Donations	\$ 890.00
Total Amount	\$ 10,885.00

Financial Matters: Jim Fennell reported that we have not yet been told how much money we will receive from Parks-on-Tap. Possibly, we will be told by the end of the year. On another note, State Representative, Amen Brown, awarded \$5,000 to LSNA for community groups. LSNA will give Baldwin Park \$1,000 of that amount.

Park Maintenance:

- 1) The new park signs will cost us about \$5,000 each. We will have to sign a contract through Parks & Recreation with the contractor.
- 2) Despite repeated emails, Jim Fennell has not head back from Parks & Recreation on the problem with repairing our paths.
- 3) Trash can pick-up is now being done by Parks & Recreation, instead of the All Seasons Contractors. It usually done on Wednesdays.
- 4) This year, the fall sprinkler water shut-off is being paid for by Parks & Recreation. Last year, we were required to fund this cost.

Astronomy Interest Group: Sandy Owens is interested in starting an informal astronomy group and mentioned that Baldwin Park is a great place to do star gazing and planet watching. She wonders if we have any amateur astronomers among our membership who might lead the group.

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event: Jan Roberts and Grace Hanrahan organized the 4th Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event. It was very popular with at least 100 registered dogs. Some estimates ran as high as 120 dogs and perhaps 200 people attending. To improve the event, it was decided that the parade start at a pre-announced time, perhaps at 11:30 AM, and that the parade should march through the park twice to give everyone a chance to participate. Also, we need a megaphone to get people's attention. At the meeting, Nancy van Arkel found and ordered an inexpensive megaphone which we can use for all our future park events. Special thanks to all who helped this event, especially: Suzanne Cross for stickers for registrants; Joan Markoe for insurance contract review; Stan Ordo for signage and decorations; Jim Fennell for photography; Pam Parseghian, George Arpagian, and Miriam Litz for leading the dog parades; and Nancy van Arkel and Sandy Owens for helping to man the registration desks.

Story Walk: Many children and their parents enjoyed following the Story Walk of May I Pet Your Dog? which Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson set up. It ran from Friday 10/ 28 through Sunday 10/30.

Website News: In this month's history article, Joe Walsh discusses the interesting history of the Youth Study Center and the Barnes: <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/youth-study-center-barnes>

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.