

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 7/6/2017 7:00 – 8:15 PM - Tivoli Community Room

Attendees: Stan Ordo, Joan Markoe, Dorothy Gray, Sandra Owens, Bob Strunk, Jim Fennell, Joe Walsh, Jan Roberts, Joan Applegate and Grace Hanrahan.

Jim Fennell moderated the meeting.

Minutes of the 6/1/2017 meeting were distributed and later approved.

Parks on Tap at Baldwin Park (6/7 – 6/11): This was a very successful and well attended event. We received \$62 from the donation cup at the entrance. (Note: After the meeting, we received a check for \$2,272.85.) We hope to be able to schedule another Parks on Tap next year. Jim Fennell was told that we may be able to get it two years in a row, but probably not a third year. We will request a larger area with more seating.

Dog Bag Dispenser: Jan Roberts reported that she has refilled the dispenser twice in the last month so it is successful. The bags only cost \$9.99 for 3,200 bags.

Baldwin Park Website: It was decided that a sub-committee be formed to discuss the website design. A ballpark estimate is that it will cost at least \$1,000. There will be a one-time design fee plus maintenance costs. Joan Markoe created a list of various websites of Philadelphia Parks' Friends groups. The list is included below. Jim Fennell will contact a couple of website developers to set up a meeting.

Park Sign: Joan Markoe suggested that we may want to better identify Baldwin Park by having a large sign posted at the 19th and 18th Street entrances. Joan shared photos of some examples of other Philadelphia park signs.

Brochure Holder: Grace Hanrahan reported that we had only 15 out of the original 130 brochures. Most were taken during the Parks on Tap event. Although the brochure will need to be revised in the future, the group approved printing 50 more at a cost of about \$1 each.

Water Pooling: Jim Fennell reported the water pooling on the north side of the park because of drainage problems to both North by Northwest and Parks & Recreation. It is causing a mosquito problem in the park.

Calendar: Next Meetings: Thursday August 3rd and September 7th at 7 PM

Park Cleanups: Saturday July 15th and August 12th from 10 – 11 AM

Park Cleanup Attendance: 6/3/2017 – 8 and 7/15/2017 - 11

Website Sub-Committee: Volunteers are: Jim Fennell, Joe Walsh, Joan Markoe, Sandy Owens, Stan Ordo and Grace Hanrahan. It was suggested that Jim Ruddick be contacted as he is involved in LSNA website updates. Jim Fennell will contact possible website developers, Nancy Chacko and Jennifer Hallgren, for a meeting with the sub-committee on the design considerations.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported that we have: \$6,610.73.

Rats: Joan Markoe and several members reported seeing rats. Jim Fennell spoke to Jim Mako who suggested purchasing collars to place on the rim of the garbage cans which has helped in Rittenhouse Square.

Tree Identification Tags: Stan Ordo reported that National Band has 3" X 5" aluminum tags which can accommodate several lines as well as a QR code. They use stainless steel screws with springs to attach to the tree trunk. The cost per tag is: \$10 for 25 or less and \$8.50 for 50 or less.

Neighborhood News:

Dead trees on 19th Street were removed by Parks on Tap.

There is no update on the status of the Stop Sign at 19th & Hamilton Streets.

The Police Department plan to send police through the park on a regular basis.

Construction work on the Ben Franklin Parkway should be completed by September in time for its centennial celebration.

The hotel will be delayed for 2 years due to a decision on federal tax credits.

In July and August, special light displays will be installed at Aviator and Shakespeare Parks advertising events at Eakins Oval.

Jan Roberts said that the dog park at 19th & Greene opening was delayed. Membership will cost \$50 for residents north of Spring Garden and \$100 for those south. Also, use of the dog park will be scheduled.

Bob Strunk is concerned about recycling plastic bags which are not accepted by the Philadelphia recycling program. Wawa is the only nearby store which has a separate bin for the bags. Whole Foods no longer has a separate bin. Bob has proposed that the city start imposing a tax on plastic bags to encourage people to recycle.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Submitted by Grace Hanrahan

Joan Markoe's List of Park Friends' Websites

List of Park Friends' groups (per the City):

<http://www.phila.gov/ParksandRecreation/getinvolved/friendsgroups/Pages/ListofFriendsGroups.aspx>

Friends' groups I found that have websites, not just a Facebook page (not comprehensive):

Friends of Rittenhouse Square <http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/>

Friends of Dickinson Square Park (Pennsport) <http://www.dickinsonsquare.org/>

Friends of Pennypack Park (Northeast Philly) <http://www.friendsofpennypackpark.org/>

Friends of Pastorius Park (Chestnut Hill) <https://www.friendsofpastorius.org/>

Friends of Columbus Square (Passyunk) <https://mycolumbussquare.org/>

Friends of Clark Park (West Philly) <http://www.friendsofclarkpark.org/>

Friends of Gorgas Park (Roxborough) <http://www.gorgaspark.com/>

Friends of the Wissahickon (many neighborhoods) <https://www.fow.org/>

Friends of Cianfrani Park (South Philly) <https://cianfranipark.com/>

Friends of Fitler Square (Center City West) <http://www.fitlersquare.org/>

Friends of Julian Abele Park (Southwest Center City) <http://www.fitlersquare.org/>

Friends of Louis Kahn Park (Center City) <http://kahnpark.org/>

Friends of Schuylkill River Park (Center City) <http://www.fsrp.org/>

Friends of Vernon Park (Germantown) <https://friendsofvernonpark.org/>

Friends of Pretzel Park (Manayunk) <http://www.friendsofpretzelpark.org/>

Friends of Carpenter's Woods (West Mt. Airy) <http://www.focw.org/>

Friends of Tacony Creek Park (Lower Northeast) <https://tcpkeepers.org/>

Friends of Penn Treaty Park (Fishtown) <http://penntreatypark.org/>

Friends of Jefferson Square Park (South Philly) <http://www.jeffersonsquarepark.org/>

Friends of Malcolm X Park (West Philly) <http://malcolmxphl.org/>