

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Virtual Meeting Minutes: 5/7/2020 (7 – 7:45 PM) – Zoom Session

Note: Because of the coronavirus, the board decided to hold a virtual meeting via a Zoom session.

Attendees (13): Jim Fennell, Sandra Owens, Joe Walsh, Joan Markoe, Grace Hanrahan, Peg Szczurek, Marion Parkinson, Mary Feingold, Seamus Kearney, Jan Roberts, Sandie Farrell, and Bernie and Jane Mason. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Previously, minutes of the 4/4/2020 board meeting had been approved via email.

Calendar of Future Planned Events:

June Monthly Meeting	Thursday 6/4/2020	7 PM	Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Session (Contact Jim Fennell, if interested in attending.)
Jane's Walk	Postponed		Tour of local sites by Joe Walsh & Jim Fennell
Scavenger Hunt	Postponed		Joe Walsh has the hunt ready for beta testing
Parks-on-Tap	7/15/20 – 7/19/2020		This event may be postponed or canceled.
Movie Night	Thursday 8/27/2020		This event may be postponed or canceled.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported as of 4/30/2020, a balance of \$21,850.00 with checks paid out totaling \$27.50 for brochure reprints and \$1,222.55 in deposits for memberships. (Note: Additional dues of \$125.00 arrived in May but are not reflected in these numbers.)

Membership Drive: Joan Markoe reported that as of 5/7/2020, there was a total of 49 memberships, of which 15 were new and 34 were renewals. The total number of memberships was down from last year's total of 66. This year's total in memberships was \$3,575, which is down from last year's total of \$3,825. 30 existing members that have not renewed yet but perhaps an e-mail reminder from Jim Fennell may increase renewals. Special thanks are given to the Community College of Philadelphia for a donation of \$500. We have not heard yet about the Reinvestment Grant from the Parks Conservancy for last year's Parks on Tap. Although we were selected for this year's Parks on Tap in July, it is uncertain if this will happen. It is important to keep our membership levels high as this may be our primary source of income.

Hawthorne Trees Planted: Joe Walsh's application resulted in the city planting five Hawthorne trees on 19th Street. As the trees will require 10 – 15 gallons of water per week for the next two years, Joe has organized a bucket brigade. Temporarily we are using the Tivoli's water spigot until the water in the park is turned back on. Contact Joe Walsh if you want to volunteer.

Park Maintenance: Stan Ordo and Joe Walsh used Gorilla Glue to repair some stones in the wall. A tentative date of May 23rd was set for a park clean-up using social distancing and masks. However, this was canceled after the meeting when Parks and Recreation came out against any group holding an organized clean-up.

Baldwin Park Tee Shirts or Vests: Joe Walsh proposed that we obtain tee shirts or vests identifying us as Friends of Baldwin Park during clean-ups and park maintenance. Also, it might give us more authority if we need to explain park rules. Joe will investigate the cost and possible designs.

Website News: Check out the latest history articles at <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/history>. This month features an article on the Stetson Mansion and Hat Company by Joe Walsh. Also, Joe updated the park tree inventory and is working on identifying the plants in the beds.

Park Maintenance: Jim Fennell contacted Parks & Recreation to offer \$4,000 more for perennials for the planting beds. The planting will occur in the fall when the sprinklers are working again. Peg Szczurek mentioned that we need to be on the lookout for the return of the Spotted Lanternfly which can destroy trees. Information can be found on this website:

https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly/SpottedLanternflyAlert/Pages/default.aspx

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM. Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.