

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 5/7/2026 (7 – 8 PM)

Attendees (10): Jim Fennell, Bob Davis, Nancy van Arkel, Roslyn Franklin, Joan Markoe, Jan Roberts, Barbara Shelly, Judith Johnson, Stephen Denning, and Grace Hanrahan.

Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. The draft minutes of the April meeting were approved

Calendar of Events:

May Clean-Up	Saturday 5/9/26	10 – 11 AM	“Love Your Park” Clean-up
Parks-on-Tap	Wed 5/13 – Fri 5/15 Sat 5/16 – Sun 5/17	4 – 10 PM Noon – 10 PM	Benefits Parks & Recreation
Story Walk	Sat 5/16 – Sun 5/17	10 AM – 4 PM	Book: “Caps for Sale”
Park Tree Tour	Saturday 5/16/26	Noon – 1 PM	Free tree tour
June Meeting	Thursday 6/4/26	7 PM	Monthly Meeting
June Clean-up	Saturday 6/13/26	10 – 11 AM	Monthly Clean-up

New Trees: Recently two new trees were planted by Joe Walsh and Nancy van Arkel. A red Crape Myrtle, which will bloom August through September, is located on the mound near the Cedar of Lebanon. A White Oak, which attracts caterpillar larvae, was planted on the central south side of the park.

Park Clean-up: The focus for this month’s clean-up is to remove excess Lamb’s Ear and Lariope plants. Some of these plants will be donated to the gardening group at the Philadelphian which maintains the Bulldog Park. Also, the clean-up volunteers will trim weeds around the stone walls and the temporary fencing in the bridge area.

Park Bench Maintenance: On April 23rd and 24th, Joe Walsh organized a second bench cleaning with students from the Belmont Charter School, located in the former Hallahan High School building. This is a Community Outreach Project for the students, who used scrub brushes and large five-gallon buckets. Check out the cleaner benches!

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe submitted the April financial statement.

PNC Bank Statement for Period 04/01/2026-04/30/2026

Beginning Balance	\$38,906.94	
Deposits	\$ 5,745.42	(From dues & donations)
Deductions	\$ 100.00	(For purchase of a White Oak tree)
Ending Balance	\$44,552.36	

Joan Markoe announced that she will be resigning as treasurer, as she will be moving out of the city within the next few months. Joan has served as treasurer for ten years and has done a great job in establishing procedures for the position. Congratulations on a job well done!

Membership Drive: Roz Franklin reported that the drive which started on April 1st was off to a good start with 70 members so far. You can join through “Give Lively” by clicking on this link:
<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/join>

Website News: Read Joe Walsh’s recent article about the latest tree planted on 19th Street, the Paperbark Maple.
<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/paperbark-maple>

Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan, Secretary.