

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Virtual Meeting Minutes: 11/5/2020 (7 – 7:40 PM) – Zoom Session

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

Attendees (17): Joe Walsh, Steve Kurens, Susan Collins, Bob Strunk, Jim Fennell, Sandra Owens, Stan Ordo, Grace Hanrahan, Peg Szczurek,, Marion Parkinson, Ed Bogucki, Kim Clark, Joan Markoe, Ed Boehner, Eddie Schechter, Eve Adler and Floyd Platton. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 10/1/2020 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported as of 10/31/2020, a balance of \$19,470.73. There were deductions of \$3,515.88 for landscaping and mortar for wall repair. Deposits from dues amount to \$130.75. There is an outstanding check of \$250.69. On 10/24/2020, Joan Markoe submitted a reimbursement request of \$4,000 to the Parks Conservancy from the 2019 Parks-on-Tap Reinvestment Grant. These expenses were for landscaping and the sprinkler repair.

Membership Drive: As of 10/31/2020, there was a total of 116 memberships, which is 65 more than last year's total of 66. Dues collected total \$6,485. Special thanks go to Eddie Schechter from the Watermark for his membership development efforts at the Watermark. We now have a total of 13 members from Watermark! Eddie is making sure that information about the Friends' gets into the Watermark's newsletters to the residents.

Park Maintenance: The middle bench handrails were re-installed by Joe Walsh, Lou Ferrero, and Stan Ordo. "Love Your Park Day" will be celebrated on Saturday 11/14/2020 with a park clean-up. Activities will include trimming bushes, weeding the flower beds, and removing vines from trees. In addition to the Friends, Joe Walsh reported that five volunteers signed up on the Parks & Recreation website. Water will be turned off in the park in mid-November and the project of watering the 19th Street trees will end. Parks & Recreation will charge us a fee of about \$150 for the turn-off.

Tree Identification Tags: Attached is a proposed priority list of trees to be tagged from Joe Walsh. Stan Ordo will work with Joe on selecting a few trees to pilot the identification tree tags.

Matthias Baldwin Birthday: Sandy Owens will post in the park the Baldwin Birthday Banner for the month of December, but this year there will not be a celebration because of coronavirus restrictions.

FDR Park Tour: In September, Sandy Owens attended the Park Conservancy's tour of FDR Park, which was developed for the Sesquicentennial in 1926. The Park consists of 350 acres with many beautiful vistas. Unfortunately, it was built on wetlands which continues to be a problem. The Swedish Museum is in the park. It also hosts a Southeast Asian Food Market on weekends. In June 2021, FDR Park will be the site of the Philadelphia Flower Show.

Calendar of Future Planned Events:

Love Your Park Clean-up	Saturday 11/14/2020	10 AM	With social distancing and masks
December Meeting	Thursday 12/3/2020	7 PM	Via Zoom
December Clean-up	Saturday 12/12/2020	10 AM	With social distancing and masks

Boosting Membership: Joe Walsh suggested that we might increase membership by offering gift memberships for people to purchase for others. Joan Markoe will meet with Joe to discuss how this might be done with the current membership process.

Musical Events in the Park: Steve Kurens is looking into possible musical events in the park. One possibility is students from the Curtis Institute. The lack of an electrical connection for amplifiers may be a problem. Joe Walsh said that we might need a permit to cover all the events.

Website News: Check out the latest history article on “The Norris Locomotive Works” by Joe Walsh at:

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/history>

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

Proposed List of Trees for Identification Tags:

Cedar of Lebanon	<i>Cedrus libani</i>	2
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	2
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	1
Golden Rain Tree	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	3
Sunburst Honeylocust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	3
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	2 plus 18th street trees
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	1
Katsura	<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	1 female, 1 male
Japanese Pagoda Tree	<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	2 (formerly Regent Scholar tree)
Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	6
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus spp.</i>	2 plus 19th street trees
Harry Lauder's Walking Stick	<i>Corylus avellana 'Contorta'</i>	1 (tag on signpost with arrow?)
Purple Leaf Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	1
Pitch Pine	<i>Pinus rigida</i>	2
Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	3
White Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	1
Red Pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	1
Pink White Magnolia	<i>Magnolia spp.</i>	1
Sweetbay Magnolia	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	1
Crabapple	<i>Malus spp.</i>	4 trees, 3 different cultivars
Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	3
Chinese Fringe Tree	<i>Chionanthus retusus</i>	1 looks same as above
Double Pink Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan'</i>	3
Beech		waiting to confirm id and species 1