

YO!

FRIENDS OF BALDWIN PARK  
MARCH, 2012 Minutes

Present:

Mel Seligsohn, Lou Fererro, Beth & Paul Shay, Grace & Stan Hanrahan, Frank Feingold & Seamus Kearney

Museum Tower News

Mel reported on a Museum Towers project meeting held at the Tivoli last week. He said the Forest City group's current plan features a continuous wall, 6' tall, from 19th to 18th Sts constructed on their south boundary [the park's north boundary]. It would not be inviting for park users and Mel suggested we talk to them at their next meeting to discuss alternatives. Jovida will be asked to broaden her alerting audience to allow for more of us to know of that meeting.

Barnes Info

Mel also reported that most of the parking spaces in the near-completed museum would be allotted to Barnes staff & "big wigs"—very few, if any, for the public.

501 c 3 progress

Paul gave an update on the progress of our 501 c 3 application. He has registered us with PA as Matthias Baldwin Park, Inc. with an alias of The Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park. We agreed on a Conflict of Interest Policy [unanimous] & will look for a Mission Statement [our brochure?]. Paul said the IRS application will cost \$400 and that the PA application cost \$125 [Paul paid it, we will recompense]. We will check with Jim if we can meet this total [\$575] or raise it from members. Paul collected needed signatures [Paul, Seamus] and will get two others: Jim Ruddick & Joan Applegate to close the loop on the PA process and to continue the paperwork for the IRS application. He hopes to complete the filing of the IRS application by April and, if there is no pushback from IRS, it is possible we could have 501 c 3 status later this year. Benefits of having 501 c 3 status would include better chances to fundraise and to create partnerships with area businesses and institutions.

Cleanups

We set dates for the next three months.

March 24th [11am], April 21st [11am] and June 2nd [10am]

Annual Park Picnic

We selected Saturday, June 2nd as the date for the Annual Picnic-in-the-Park from Noon to 4pm. We will conduct a park clean-up at 10am just before the picnic.

Benches, lighting, plantings

Even though the winter has been mild, the wear & tear on the benches make them look shoddy. Seamus suggested we do an elbow-grease cleanup on the benches that look like they need it. Also, the lamp needs to be replaced and the walls some maintenance. Seamus will craft a letter to Parks & Recreation to ask for permission to use the park's electricity and water resources to power wash the benches and to place a spur on P&R to speed up wall & lamp progress.

NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, APRIL 5 AT THE TIVOLI, 7PM

Peace in your Life and a World Series in Philly,

Seamus Kearney

"If you have an opportunity to make things better, and you don't, you are wasting your time on this earth" Roberto Clemente