

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 1/4/2018 7:00 – 7:55 PM - Tivoli Community Room

Attendees (9): Bob Strunk, Joan Applegate, Sandra Owens, Stan Ordo, Joan Markoe, Joe Walsh, Jim Ruddick, Jim Fennell, and Grace Hanrahan. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 12/7/2017 meeting were summarized by Grace Hanrahan and approved.

Bridge Construction: The 22nd Street Bridge construction was not finished at end of 2017, but they have increased the number of traffic lanes. The 18th Street Bridge is scheduled to be done by April.

Stop Sign Status: Although our request for an All Stop Sign at 19th & Hamilton Streets was turned down based on a traffic survey taken in September 2017, Jim Fennell met with a Traffic Department representative to appeal their decision. Jim argued that the stop sign is needed because of the speed of cars coming down 19th Street, especially when the Parkway or 21st Street is closed due to events. As a result, the Traffic Department has agreed to do another traffic survey. Although they are open to a crosswalk with curb cuts, the Parking Authority will have to do a cost analysis in parking fees, as this may eliminate 3 parking spaces. On another note, they agreed to post additional signs by February to warn of truck length restrictions on 19th & Hamilton Streets.

Parks on Tap Funds: Baldwin Park is eligible for \$4,000 in grants from Parks and Recreation which can be used for projects this year or can be carried over to next year. We had planned to use this money to have large Baldwin Park signs erected on 19th and 18th Streets. However, as Parks and Recreation is in the process of creating a standardized sign for all parks, it was decided that we wait for their sign design. This may mean delaying applying for the grant until next year.

Baldwin Park Website: Joan Markoe reported we are taking advantage of a 50% discount for the website cost that Jennifer Hallgren had found.

Parks Conservancy: Jim Ruddick suggested that we investigate joining the Parks Conservancy as a Friends Park Group as the park would be eligible to apply for a grant.

Neighborhood News: The plan is being revised for the construction of an apartment building on Callowhill between 19th Street and Franklinton Boulevard. The Oren brothers are working to develop a taller building than the currently approved building including the current beer distributor site. They hope to coordinate the rebuild of Shamokin Street with the developer of the current parking lot next to Rose Tattoo. This would involve tearing down the Franklin Beverage Center. However, there are many issues: zoning height restrictions, water access, and the cost of rebuilding Shamokin Street.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported that we have: \$8,777.16.

Community College of Philadelphia Student Volunteers: Joe Walsh suggested that we might find park volunteers at CCP. Jim Fennell said that might require someone to be a volunteer coordinator. Joe will follow up on this.

Calendar: Next Meeting: Thursday February 1st at 7 PM

Park Cleanup: Saturday February 10th from 10 – 11 AM

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM. Submitted by Grace Hanrahan.