

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Virtual Meeting Minutes: 6/3/2021 (7 – 7:40 PM) – Zoom Session.

Attendees (12): Carolyn Naaman, Joe Walsh, Bob Strunk, Jim Fennell, Suzanne Cross, Sandra Owens, Stan Ordo, Grace Hanrahan, Joan Markoe, Ed Boehner, Jim Ruddick, and Jan Roberts. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 5/6/2021 meeting were approved.

Scavenger Hunt: Joe Walsh reported that the Scavenger Hunt, which was held on Saturday May 15th, was successful with 40 people participating in 12 teams. The Baldwin Locomotive Team was the winner and donated their \$100 prize back as memberships to the Friends of Baldwin Park. Next year, in addition to the adult version, there will be a separate list of scavenger hunt questions for children.

Tree Identification Tags: Joe Walsh announced that the remaining 52 tags for Baldwin Park will be received by the mid-June. Joe and Stan Ordo plan to install them gradually over the summer doing about 6 - 8 at a session. Included in the shipment will be 30 tags for Aviator Park.

Stop Sign: Five years after we had submitted a signed petition, a Stop Sign has finally been installed at 19th & Hamilton Streets. LSNA was instrumental in getting the sign installed. Two of our members, Eve Adler and Joan Possiel, are continuing to contact Darrell Clarke's office to try to get a curb-cut installed on this corner.

Park Maintenance: Sprinklers are working but one sprinkler head was vandalized and needs repair. Jim Fennell contacted Parks & Recreation that lights on the southeast corner are not working. In the past, they have been prompt in their response to the problem. The dirt path on the northeast corner has been re-seeded and grass is starting to grow. The dirt path on the northwest corner will be re-seeded in the fall. On May 12th, six came out for a paint day to stain the mortar on the south walls to blend with the brownstone. This task is done about every 5 years and was organized by Stan Ordo.

Park Plantings: Jim Fennell mentioned that the lilies, echinacea, and yucca are in bloom. All forty Hibiscus Plants that were added last year have survived and are now visible. Approval was voted on to spend up to \$6,000 on plantings this year. Jim Fennell will meet with Parks & Recreation and the contractor, All Seasons, to discuss plantings. Plumbago and Snow Drops are plants that need to be replaced. Also, some low bushes may be used to create a barrier to bare areas to prevent people and dogs from walking in the area. Joe Walsh warned that dogs are digging in the Hibiscus area which caused broken stems.

Treasurer's Report: Bank Statement for Period Ending May 28, 2021

Beginning Balance	\$31,950.64
Deposits	\$ 1,467.30
Deductions	\$ 270.40
Ending Balance	\$33,147.54

Deposits: From dues, representing 22 memberships received in May
Deductions: \$15.40 to Grace Hanrahan for the Scavenger Hunt posters
\$255.00 to Green Estates for turning on and repairing the sprinkler
Outstanding Checks: \$118.19, which have not yet cleared the bank

Membership Report: The 2021-2022 membership drive is going very well and compares favorably to the 2020-2021 membership drive.

	2021-2022	2020-2021	Change
Total Members	172	124	+47
New Members	76	73	
Dues Collected	\$10,940.	\$6,980.	+\$3,935.
Average Donation	\$64.	\$56.	+\$8.

Almost 80% of last years' members have renewed. We received one very generous anonymous donation of \$500. By working with the donor-advised fund which sent us the check, our letter of appreciation was forwarded to the anonymous donor.

As expected, the number of memberships received in May slowed down considerably and is expected to continue. Thanks to all our volunteers who have been helping on the membership effort, especially Peg Szczurek, Marion Parkinson and Suzanne Cross.

Calendar of Future Planned Events:

June Park Clean-up	Saturday 6/12/2021	10 AM	Monthly Park clean-up
Watermark Baldwin Lecture	Thursday 6/17/2021	2 PM	Joe Walsh's lecture via Zoom
July Meeting	CANCELLED		
July Park Clean-up	Saturday 7/10/2021	10 AM	Monthly Park clean-up
August Meeting	Thursday 8/4/2021	7 PM	Via Zoom or In-person at Tivoli
August Park Clean-up	Saturday 8/14/2021	10 AM	Monthly Park clean-up
Movie Night	Thursday 8/26/2021	Dusk	"A League of Their Own"

Bench Maintenance: Benches were recently cleaned by volunteers. As an experiment, one bench was stained. Joe Walsh reported that we will wait 2 – 3 years to see if it lasts and is worth the effort and expense as it takes at least 2 hours and costs about \$10 per bench.

Watermark Baldwin Lecture: Joe Walsh's next lecture on "Fire" via Zoom is scheduled for Thursday 6/17/2021 at 2 PM. Joe mentioned that he may expand these history lectures to other buildings.

Website News: Read the June history article about Asa Whitney & Sons and the 1600 Block of Callowhill Street. See: <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/asa-whitney-car-wheel-works>

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