

## **Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 11/1/2018 (7 – 8:10 PM) - Tivoli Community Room**

**Attendees (13):** Sandra Owens, Jim Fennell, Joan Markoe, Karen and Mark Belding, Bob Strunk, Marion Parkinson, Jan Roberts, Mary and Frank Feingold, Stan Ordo, Grace Hanrahan and Joe Walsh. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 10/4/2018 meeting were approved.

**Calendar:**           Next Meeting:                           Thursday 12/6/2018 at 7 PM  
                          Next Cleanup:                           Saturday 12/15/2018 at 10 AM

**Dog Howl-O-Ween Party:** The Howl-O-Ween party for dogs took place on the rain date, Sunday, 10/28. It was very successful with about 35 dogs and at least 50 adults participating.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joan Markoe reported the total is \$10,780.65. Two grabbers for picking up litter were purchased for \$29.66. Bob Strunk and Karen and Mark Belding will evaluate the new grabbers.

**"Love Your Park Day":** The clean-up is scheduled for Saturday 11/10/18. Stan Ordo will pick up river stones to replenish pebbles that have been washed away near the monoliths.

**Parks-on-Tap:** There was no update on the amount of money we might receive from the 2018 Parks-on-Tap at the time of the meeting.

**Park Maintenance:** Although Jim Fennell offered \$4,000 from our treasury to Parks & Recreation for new plants, Jim Makoe said that it was too late in the season for planting this year. Jim Fennell mentioned that a major planting was done in the park about 9 years ago, but about half those plants have died. Drainage problems accounted for some of the plants dying. There was no update from Parks & Recreation on the new design for park signs. It was suggested that we might start to work on the tree identification signs.

**19th & Hamilton Street Crosswalk Update:** Although two pedestrian crossing signs were installed on the south side of the intersection of 19th & Hamilton Streets, there is no schedule yet for painting the white crosswalk stripes or removal of parking spaces.

**Public Spaces Summit:** Sandy Owens attended this meeting on Saturday 10/27/18 from 9 AM – 3 PM at the Free Library. The meeting was sponsored by Fairmount Parks, the Fairmount Conservancy, Parks & Recreation, the Free Library, and the Knight Foundation. We may be eligible for a \$2,500 grant because Sandy attended the meeting. The organizers used our park cleanup sign as an example of a simple sign that communicates its message effectively and inexpensively. These are some ideas that were discussed at the summit:

- Inform local police of any park events through the Community Relations Officer.
- Encourage diversity in the park.
- Interview people in the park to determine what they like about the park.
- Look for new ideas and events to attract more people to use the park.

In the discussion that followed, Marion Parkinson suggested that we might try "Geocaching" which is popular with young people. This is an outdoor recreational activity, in which participants use a GPS receiver or mobile device and other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches. It is like a scavenger hunt. Marion will research this further for the next meeting.

**Other Neighborhood News:** Jennifer Hallgren will be exhibiting paintings at the Watermark starting on November 17th. At the November 13th LSNA meeting, there will be an update on the apartment building planned for behind the Rodin Museum. The LSNA December meeting will include a discussion of the plans for the nine-story apartment building planned for 18th and Callowhill Streets, which would involve tearing down Franklin Beverage and the Rose Tattoo.

**Website News:** Check out the Howl-O-Ween photos at: [www.BaldwinParkPhilly.org](http://www.BaldwinParkPhilly.org).

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM. Submitted by Grace Hanrahan.