

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Virtual Meeting Minutes: 4/1/2021 (7 – 7:40 PM) – Zoom Session.

Attendees (16): Joe Walsh, Bob Strunk, Jim Fennell, Sandra Owens, Stan Ordo, Grace Hanrahan, Joan Markoe, Jan Roberts, Ed Boehner, Suzanne Cross, Peg Szczurek, Marion Parkinson, Eve Adler, Eddie Schechter, Mel Seligsohn and Floyd Platton. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the 3/4/2021 meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe reported the Bank Statement as of 3/31/2021:

Beginning Balance:	\$22,700.19
Deposits:	\$ 4,969.65 (from dues)
Deductions:	\$ 136.90 (see below)
Ending Balance:	\$27,532.94

(Note: Approximately \$750.00 in additional dues were received but did not hit the bank account in time to be reflected on this statement. Actual amount of cash is more like \$28, 280.00.)

The deductions are:

- \$97.28 Peg Szczurek for Story Walk materials
- \$22.67 Suzanne Cross for membership posters placed in the park
- \$16.95 Joan Markoe for acrylic stands for posting membership flyers in the lobby of NxNW

Membership Report: Although the membership drive started about 10 days before the April 1st meeting, Joan Markoe reported that we had already received 88 memberships and \$5,600 in dues. 48 of the members are renewals and 40 are new members. Last year, we had 124 members, so 48 renewals means that 76 members still have not renewed. Many members have sent in nice compliments about the park and the Friends when they sent in their membership materials. A big thanks to Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson for volunteering to work on processing memberships. Also, some members who live in multi-family buildings have helped to spread the word by displaying our membership flyer, placing a message in their internal newsletter or portal, or having an email sent out to residents. Thanks to the following members in their respective buildings: Jan Roberts, Jackie Wolf, Jim Ruddick, Christa Leimbach, Sally Mazzarella, Ed Boehner, Eddie Schechter, Alyssa Constad, Ann Saul, Joe Capizzi, Kim Clark, Maxine Gaiber, and Sandie Farrell. Also, thanks to Eve Adler for placing our message on Facebook pages, and to Suzanne Cross for designing our eye-catching new membership flyer. Eddie Schechter mentioned that in the Watermark, the membership drive will be publicized through flyers, an article in the newsletter and at a presentation at a residents’ meeting. Suzanne Cross volunteered to set up a membership table in the park at the April clean-up and some Saturdays. A reminder will be posted again on the Nextdoor Neighbor Website. Jim Fennell will send another reminder through the Friends’ email list.

Calendar of Future Planned Events:

April Park Clean-up	Saturday 4/10/2021	10 AM	Part of City-wide clean-up
Watermark Baldwin Lecture	Thursday 4/22/2021	3 PM	Joe Walsh’s lecture via Zoom: https://zoom.us/meeting/97728486242
Story Walk	Friday 4/23 – Sunday 4/25	10 AM – 3 PM.	See details below Rain dates: 4/30 – 5/2

May Meeting	Thursday 5/6/2021	7 PM	Via Zoom
Love Your Park Week	Saturday 5/8/2021	10 AM	Project: re-staining the mortar
Scavenger Hunt	Saturday 5/15/2021	10 AM	Registration; 10:30 AM Hunt Begins

Rain Date: 5/16

Story Walk: Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson have prepared the story boards, containing laminated pages from a beginner's reader, [A Tree for All Seasons](#), about a Sugar Maple tree, in celebration of Earth Day. The boards will be posted from 10 AM – 3 PM on Friday April 23 – Sunday April 25, with rain dates of Friday April 30 – Sunday May 2. Frames, with pages from the book, will be placed along the park's path so that children will be able to follow the story as they walk through the park. The book is appropriate for children up to 7 years old. The event is being publicized by contacting local day care centers and schools, by flyers posted in the park and around the neighborhood, and through Next Door Neighbor and LSNA.

Scavenger Hunt: Joe Walsh announced that the Scavenger Hunt will take place on Saturday May 15th. Registration can be done on-line on the Baldwin Park website or through in-person registration at 10 AM. The hunt will run from 10:30 – Noon and cover the area between 17th and 20th Streets and Spring Garden to Wood Streets. Rain date is Sunday 5/16. The top prize is \$100 in cash.

Watermark Baldwin Lecture: Joe Walsh's next lecture via Zoom is scheduled for Thursday 4/22/2021 at 3 PM. The topic is neighborhood buildings that have made it to either the National or Philadelphia Register of Historic Places, as well as our one Historic District and our one and only historic street. The link to the meeting is: <https://zoom.us/meeting/97728486242>

Tree Identification Tags: Joe Walsh and Stan Ordo have placed seven tags on trees. The remaining approximately 40 tags will be ordered in mid-April and should be received by the end of June.

Park and Tree Maintenance: Joe Walsh requested two tree cuts from the Philadelphia Horticultural Society for two new street trees. The Water Brigade will re-start in the spring. Volunteers will be able to sign-up online for time slots. It is unclear if Parks and Recreation will pay for the irrigation system turn-on and maintenance or if Baldwin Park Friends will be responsible for the cost which is about \$150.

Website News: Read the April history article which deals with the Hamilton Townhomes complex.

See: <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/hamilton-townhomes>

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