

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 10/5/2023 (7 – 7:55 PM)

Attendees (8): Jim Fennell, Nancy van Arkel, Joan Markoe, Jan Roberts, Bob Strunk, Suanne Wright, Suzanne Cross, and Grace Hanrahan.

Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. The minutes of the September meeting were approved after amendment added the names of volunteers manning the Howl-O-Ween registration table.

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event: Jan Roberts and Grace Hanrahan are preparing for the Howl-O-Ween Event which is scheduled for Saturday 10/28 (Rain Date: Sunday 10/29). All dogs must be on leash and up to date on their shots. Registration begins at 10:30 AM at the 19th Street entrances. The event runs from 11 AM to noon. Flyers and posters will be posted and distributed about two weeks beforehand in the park, as well as in nearby dog shops and dog parks. A flyer will be posted on Next Door Neighbor and sent to nearby apartment/condo buildings. In addition, Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson will set up a Story Walk for children for the book, “May I Pet Your Dog?”. Donations of books and magazines for the Little Library will be welcome.

Little Library: Suzanne Cross reported that children’s books are especially needed. Magazines are also popular. They have received many books from Frankie at the Library Book Store, as well as from the “Buy Nothing” website. Book donations can be left at the Tivoli front desk for Peg Szczurek and Suzanne Cross, who will then stamp the books before putting them out in the library.

Park Clean-ups: Nancy van Arkel announced that there will be a general clean-up on Saturday 10/14. The “Love Your Park” Clean-up on Saturday 11/11 will focus on pulling up the Sunflowers. Jim Fennell mentioned that the two leaning trees have been placed on Parks & Recreation’s official list of trees to be removed.

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe submitted the monthly bank report for September:

PNC Bank Statement for Period 09/01/2023-09/29/2023

Beginning Balance	\$42,141.82	
Deposits	\$ 186.54	(All from Dues and Donations)
Deductions	\$ 125.00	(\$25 Park Permit & \$100 Data Correction)
Ending Balance	\$42,203.36	

Year-to-09/29/2023:

Income	\$10,209.00
Expenses	\$ 1,842.70
Net Income	\$ 8,366.30

Membership Committee: Help Wanted! Volunteers are needed as Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson are stepping down from the Membership Committee. We are looking for volunteers to enter membership data into a spreadsheet and send out thank you notes to members. It is not a lot of work, with the busiest time being in Spring during the membership drive. They will train volunteers. Joan Markoe processes the money and is also looking into possible ways to automate and simplify the process. If you are interested in volunteering, send an email to: baldwinparkphilly@gmail.com

Park Maintenance: No plantings are planned from our budget as the city filled in gaps in planting beds. Also, the city is reseeding the grass in the northeast corner where a path has appeared. Asters are currently in bloom. Nancy van Arkel reported that the Autumn Clematis on the southern fence may have been damaged by the herbicide sprayed on the Mulberry trees. However, she believes that if they are cut back, it will allow them to re-generate. After the November clean-up, the Sunflowers will be removed. Next spring, they will have the contractor take back the responsibility for the pre-emergent weed treatment.

Calendar of Events:

October Clean-up	Saturday 10/14/2023 10 AM	Monthly Clean-up
Howl-O-Ween	Saturday 10/28/2023 10:30 AM- Noon (Rain Date: Sunday 10/29)	Dog Costume Event
Story Walk	Friday 10/27/2023 - 10:00 AM - 3 PM Sunday 10/29/2023	Book: "May I Pet Your Dog?"
November Meeting	Thursday 11/2/2023 7 PM	Monthly Meeting
November Clean-up	Saturday 11/11/2023 10 AM (Rain Date: Sunday 11/12)	"Love Your Park" Clean-up

Website News: With Halloween coming, read Joe Walsh's fascinating article about the woman mass murderer who lived in our neighborhood about 120 years ago:

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/arsenic-in-baldwin-park>

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.
Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.