

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 11/7/2024 (7 – 8 PM)

Attendees (11): Jim Fennell, Sandy Owens, Joan Markoe, Nancy van Arkel, Bob Strunk, Suzanne Cross, Deb Schweon, Sueanne Wright, Bob Davis, Judy Johnson, and Grace Hanrahan. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. The draft minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Calendar of Events:

November Clean-up	Saturday 11/9/2024	10 AM	“Love Your Park” Clean-up
December Meeting	Thursday 12/5/2024	7 PM	Monthly Meeting at the Tivoli and Baldwin Birthday Celebrating his 229 th Birthday with refreshments
December Clean-up	Saturday 12/14/2024	10 AM	Monthly Clean-up

Treasurer’s Report: Joan Markoe reports for October and September are included.

PNC Bank Statement for Period 10/01/2024-10/31/2024

Beginning Balance	\$39,804.08	
Deposits	\$ 0.00	
Deductions	\$ 299.98	(For dog waste bags)
Ending Balance	\$39,504.10	

PNC Bank Statement for Period 09/01/2024-09/30/2024

Beginning Balance	\$39,739.63	
Deposits	\$ 172.03	(From dues & donations)
Deductions	\$ 107.58	
Ending Balance	\$39,804.08	

Deductions

Deductions of \$107.58 were \$71.01 for a spade and \$36.57 for an order of new checks.

Graffiti: The new Baldwin Park sign on the northwest 19th Street entrance was hit with graffiti. The northeast 18th Street entrance sign was not hit. It was cleaned off after Nancy van Arkel reported the incident to the city’s 311 number. In the future, Jim Fennell said that we might consider a sign on the southeast 18th Street entrance if funds are available next year from Parks on Tap.

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event: Grace Hanrahan thanked everyone who volunteered to make this event successful, especially since she missed it because of covid. Attendance was 74 registered dogs and probably about 150 people. The event cost about \$200, including the park permit. Special thanks to Jan Roberts, Sandy Owens, Suzanne Cross, Deb Schweon, Sueanne Wright, Joan Markoe, and Nancy van Arkel for their contributions in making the event a success.

Parkway Signs: Sandy Owens reported that Baldwin Park was added to the list of sites on the Pedestrian Parkway signs located at the northwest corner 19th & Vine Streets and at the southwest corner of 19th & Callowhill Streets. It took five years for the park to be added to the signs. The good news is that they were added at no cost to us.

November Clean-up: The November “Love Your Park” Clean-up is set for Saturday 11/9. Jim Fennell announced that so far, four volunteers had signed up on the “Love Your Park” website for Baldwin Park. Nancy van Arkel is planning to have some pruning done, especially to the Junipers on the northside of the park. Also, they will be cleaning out some of the grasses. The sprinklers were turned off for the winter. We seem to have the rat problem under control but let Nancy van Arkel know if you see a rat in the park and she will contact Parks and Recreation.

Little Library: Suzanne Cross reported an upsurge in donations of children’s books to the Little Library.

2025 Friends Group Registration Form: Jim Fennell requested that the board members review the Parks & Recreation Registration Form and provide data to Jim and Nancy for completing the form.

Membership: Joan Markoe reported the latest numbers from Roslyn Franklin.

	#	Total \$
Renewals:	92	6,650
New:	13	650
Total:	105	7,300

The 2025 membership drive will start on 4/1/2025. Suzanne Cross volunteered to take down the old signs and replace them with new signs when the drive begins.

Website News: Joe Walsh has added the history of the Masterman School, which also delves into the history of secondary schools in Philadelphia, such as Girls High and Central High at: <https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/masterman-high-school>

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.
Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.