

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 11/2/2023 (7 – 7:50 PM)

Attendees (7): Jim Fennell, Nancy van Arkel, Jan Roberts, Bob Strunk, Sandy Owens, Sherry Claypool, and Grace Hanrahan. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event: Jan Roberts and Grace Hanrahan reported that the Fifth Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume event was a success with over 200 attendees including 78 registered owners and 89 dogs. Special thanks to all the volunteers who pitched into help, including Sandy Owens, Sueann Wright, Stan Ordo, Jim Fennell, Nancy van Arkel, Peg Szczurek, Marion Parkinson, and Joan Markoe.

Some suggestions for next year:

- 1) As more people show up at 19th Street north entrance, than the south entrance, we need another person to help at that registration table and more dog treats.
- 2) To solve the problem of getting people's attention to fall into line for the parade, some ideas are having volunteers stationed around park to "herd" people. Also, better use of the megaphone; and getting a loud whistle may help.
- 3) A back-up volunteer parade leader is needed in case of cancellation.
- 4) Water bowls may be needed for dogs.

Story Walk: In conjunction with Howl-O-Ween, Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson set up a Story Walk for children for the book, "May I Pet Your Dog?". Donations of books and magazines for the Little Library were welcome.

Membership Committee: Roz Franklin has volunteered to help with automating the membership data processing. Initially, it will continue as a manual process. Many thanks to Peg Szczurek and Marion Parkinson for their past service.

Park Clean-ups: Nancy van Arkel announced that the weather forecast is good for "The "Love Your Park" Clean-up on Saturday 11/11 which will focus on pulling up the Sunflowers and pruning the Clematis. For the clean-up, Jim ordered from Parks & Recreation 25 paper and 25 plastic bags.

Park Sign: Jim Fennell received no update from Parks & Recreation on progress on the park sign we are interested in ordering. He has requested a current invoice on the price.

Past Article on the Baldwin Park: Sandy Owens shared an old newspaper clipping that she had saved, possibly from The Inquirer in 2007, which had a negative review of the park which described the park's "roughness and weediness" and predicted that the park would not be maintained or used by the public. Sandy wondered what the author would say today in 2023 about Baldwin Park.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe was not present as she was on vacation, but she subsequently submitted the October monthly bank report.

PNC Bank Statement for Period 09/30/2023-10/31/2023

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$42,203.36 | |
| Deposits | \$ 272.03 | (From dues and donations) |
| Deductions | \$ 0.00 | |
| Ending Balance | \$42,284.28 | |

Year-to-10/31/2023:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Income | \$10,481.03 |
| Expenses | \$ 1,842.70 |
| Net Income | \$ 8,638.33 |

Calendar of Events:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---|
| November Clean-up | Saturday 11/11/2023 10 AM | "Love Your Park" Clean-up |
| December Meeting | Thursday 12/7/2023 7 PM | Monthly Meeting Baldwin Birthday Celebration |
| December Clean-up | Saturday 12/9/2023 10 AM | Monthly Clean-up |

Website News: For photos of the Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Event, click on the link:

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/copy-of-howl-o-ween-2022?lightbox=dataItem-lod3qz101>

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.
Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.