

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Virtual Meeting Minutes: 12/2/2021 (7 – 7:40 PM) via Zoom Session

Attendees (12): Joe Walsh, Jim Fennell, Sandra Owens, Bob Strunk, Sandie Farrell, Joan Markoe, Suzanne Cross, Jan Roberts, Seamus Kearney, Jackie Wolf, Stan Ordo, and Grace Hanrahan. Jim Fennell moderated the meeting. Minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Calendar of Events:

Watermark Zoom Talk	Wednesday 12/8/2021	2 PM	Horses in neighborhood
December Clean-up	Saturday 12/11/2021	10 AM	Monthly Park clean-up
Zoom Talk: Society of Industrial Archeology (Oliver Evans Chapter)	Tuesday 12/14/2021	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Industrial History of Neighborhood
January Monthly Meeting	Thursday 1/6/2022	7 PM	Meeting via Zoom
January Monthly Clean-up	Saturday 1/8/2022	10 AM	Monthly Park clean-up

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe reported the following information:

PNC Bank Statement for Period Ending November 30, 2021:

Beginning Balance	\$30,838.54
Deposits	\$ 204.05 (All from dues.)
Deductions	\$ 322.24
Ending Balance	\$30,720.35

Deductions are:

\$130.00	Green Estates for Sprinkler turnoff
\$144.54	Grace Hanrahan for Howl-O-Ween expenses
\$47.70	WIX to renew Friends.com website for 2 years.

Membership Report

As of December 1, 2021, we have received the following for the 2021-2022 membership year:

Total Members	196
Renewals	96
New Members	100 (Three additional new members in November.)
Dues Collected	\$13,365.00

Baldwin Park on Facebook: Jim Fennell reported that Baldwin Park has 171 Facebook Friends. A friend member can nominate another person to be a friend. Jim suggested that we may want to publicize more activities, such as the Watermark lectures, on Facebook.

2022 Plans: Parks-on-Tap is uncertain for 2022. Jim Fennell suggested that the Board needs to discuss in early 2022 the possibility of holding an election. Several members have expressed an interest in gardening in the park to plant annuals or trees,

which may lead to the formation of a gardening committee. The park irrigation system has been drained and shut off for the winter. In spring, it will need repairs: one broken sprinkler head and a leaking conduit.

To Joan Markoe's question, Jim Fennell replied that Parks & Recreation has not responded to the problem of the disintegrating paths. Sandy Owens reported that she has not received any response to repeated emails and phone calls to have Baldwin Park added to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway signs.

19th Street Tree: The Logan Square Tree Tenders under the leadership of Ed Boguski, planted the new tree in late November at the northwest corner of the park. It is a crabapple tree (*Malus sp*, Purple Prince cultivar), which will have purple flowers and is very hardy and disease resistant. Unlike the crabapple tree on the southeast side of the park, this tree has very tiny 1 cm fruits.

Neighborhood News: Jim Fennell reported that DGX, which will be an upscale Dollar General Store selling beer and food on the 1900 block of Callowhill, is awaiting a Certificate of Occupancy approval. The Baldwin Building has resumed construction after the steel supply problem was resolved.

Grants: Joe Walsh announced that applications for Parks & Recreation grants are due in January. We will apply for grants to fund Movie Night in late August and the purchase of more tee shirts and a tablecloth with the park's name for use during events. It is time to start thinking of title suggestions for Movie Night. In January, we should hear if we will receive a grant for funding the little library.

Conflict of Interest: Joan Markoe will be sending the annual Conflict of Interest Certification form to board members for their signatures.

Matthias Baldwin's Birthday: To mark the 226th birthday of Matthias Baldwin, a banner with lights was posted at the northwest park entrance. However, because of the pandemic, this year we cannot celebrate with refreshments.

Overnight Guests: Joe Walsh has seen signs (used syringes) of overnight guests in the park. However, we have not experienced the problems of nearby Aviator Park which has been overwhelmed.

Zoom Neighborhood Lecture and Tours: Joe Walsh announced the topic for the next Watermark Lecture, taking place on December 8th at 2 PM, will be horses and their history in the Baldwin Park Neighborhood. Joe will deliver an additional zoom lecture on the industrial history of the neighborhood on December 14th at 6:30 PM to the Oliver Evans Chapter of the Society of Industrial Archeology.

Website News: Check out the latest history article on our website on the latest neighborhood building that was preserved via designation on the Philadelphia Registry of Historic Places. The article talks about this building and all the buildings in the Baldwin Park Neighborhood on the national and local registers.

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/historic-registry-buildings>

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