

Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park Meeting Minutes: 3/7/2024 (7 – 7:40PM)

Attendees (10): Nancy van Arkel, Sandy Owens, Bob Strunk, Joan Markoe, Jan Roberts, Roz Franklin, Suzanne Cross, Suanne Wright, Deb Schweon, and Grace Hanrahan.
Nancy van Arkel moderated the meeting. The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Clean-up News:

Special thanks were expressed to Stan Ordo for the newly designed clean-up banner which was professionally printed.

Thanks to Nancy van Arkel, the wooden posts have been replaced with metal rods for the signs warning people to keep their pets out of the planting area. For the March 9th clean-up, depending on the weather, we may try to spray paint the back of these signs.

The April monthly clean-up will take place on the first Saturday, April 6th, instead of our usual second Saturday of the month, so that we will be part of the Philadelphia city-wide clean-up. The May 11th Clean-up will be part of Parks and Recreation’s “Love Your Park” week.

Calendar of Events:

March Clean-up	Saturday 3/9/2024	10 AM	Monthly Clean-up
April Meeting	Thursday 4/4/2024	7 PM	Monthly Meeting
April Clean-up	Saturday 4/6/2024	10 AM	Monthly Clean-up (Date Changed)
May Meeting	Thursday 5/2/2024	7 PM	Monthly Meeting
May Clean-up	Saturday 5/11/2024	10 AM	“Love Your Park” Clean-up

Park Signs: There was no progress to report.

Friends Network Meeting: Sandy Owens attended the meeting. McMichael’s Park reported that they ran a fund raiser called “Love Light” in connection with Valentine’s Day. People donated \$5 to light a bulb on a string of red lights to honor or memorialize a loved one. It is not clear if this would work in Baldwin Park.

Also, McMichaels’ Park has become an arboretum. To qualify, a park must have 25 species of trees and hold at least one event per year with an educational component. We will discuss the possibility of Baldwin Park applying for arboretum status at a later meeting.

Park Maintenance: Parks and Recreation made the final decision that a white pine and black pine tree will remain. This is based on the evaluation by an arborist that the trees are not in danger of falling.

Treasurer's Report: Joan Markoe filed the 2023 tax return for the Friends of Matthias Baldwin Park. Joan also presented the monthly Treasurer's report for February:

PNC Bank Statement for Period 02/01/2024-02/29/2024

Beginning Balance	\$43,126.97
Deposits	\$ 0.00
Deductions	\$ 41.80
Ending Balance	\$43,085.17

Note: Deductions totaling \$41.80 were for restocking the Friends' brochures for placement in the park. (There is an additional \$250.00 in outstanding checks not yet cashed by payees.)

Membership Drive: Joan Markoe announced that the drive will begin on April 1st when Jim Fennell sends out an initial email asking people to join or renew their membership. Nancy van Arkel will place an announcement on our website. Joan Markoe will process the checks the checks and PayPal payments. Roz Franklin will update the membership spreadsheet. The annual dues start at \$25 per household.

Many people will be involved in spreading the word about the membership drive.

Tivoli residents will receive an email in mid-April.

Jim Fennell will update the Facebook Page for Baldwin Park's Friends and contact LSNA.

In City View, Jan Roberts will post signs in elevators and provide information for the building's internal link and newsletter. Jan will also post information on Next Door Neighbor.

Suzanne Cross will post signs in the park and set up a membership table at the park clean-up events.

Joan Markoe will reach out to Eddie Schecter of the Fountain View, formerly the Watermark.

Suanne Wright of Spring Garden Towers will try to get a flyer in their newsletter and posted in their mailroom.

Volunteers are needed to contact other buildings, such as the Granary and North-X-Northwest.

Website News:

Matthias Baldwin Park has quite a variety of trees. In addition to the identification tags, Joe Walsh developed a map of the park trees, which not only identifies the type of tree, but also has links on the internet with more information about the tree type. Visit our website to learn more about our trees:

<https://www.baldwinparkphilly.org/trees-in-the-park>

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Grace Hanrahan.