

*Friends of Christopher Columbus Park  
Meeting Minutes 04/14/15  
Mariners House, Boston, MA*

**Meeting chaired by Ann Babbitt**

Called to order at 6:37 PM

Minutes for March were distributed.

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Vice President: Ann Babbitt welcomed 4 new members

15 members in attendance

**Committee Reports**

**-Treasurer Report - Audrey Tortolani**

See attached Report

March slow month

Biggest expense-Trellis Lights

\$2600 from Membership Social - Cash, Check, Pay Pal

**Membership - Meredith reporting for Beverly Knight**

60 persons attended Membership Social on April 8th

Liason - Rita Pagliuca will send Thank You notes to new members

Thank you notes to all for IRS purposes with amount of donation

New member Jean will do mailing

Tot Lot Flyer given out

**Facebook: Meredith**

As of 3/20 443 Likes

As of 04/08 441

Former member who has been away for a few years has kept up to date with FOCCP through Facebook! He has rejoined the group and had high praises for the Facebook page.

**Website & Internet Communications Committee Report**

**Christina Sperry**

Five emails were sent to the FOCCP mailing list since the last monthly meeting:

Two emails about the April 3 egg hunt in the Park,

Two emails about the April 9 Membership Social, and

The April monthly newsletter.

The emails all went to a usual number of recipients and were each opened around the usual rate of about 1/3 opened.

The Park gets busier at the start of Spring, and that also means more visits to the website. We've already had more website visitors this month than in all of February, and we will likely pass January and March visitor numbers soon. I also noticed that a link to our website has been added to the Faneuil Hall Hilton Hotel website on their "Area Attractions" page.

**Infrastructure: Bob Venuti reporting for Ford**

- Wysteria has been trimmed
- Now installing lights
- Began with Pinta
- New wiring
- If lights are too bright, they can be dimmed
- Pedestrian lights being replaced - will be brighter and will provide a safer environment
- Project should be completed by July

**Park Ranger**

At the March meeting, the membership approved hiring a park ranger for spring to fall. The cost of \$20,000 will be paid by FOCCP (\$15,000) and a donor (\$5,000). The duties of the ranger will be to monitor the homeless situation in early mornings, to monitor and issue tickets for off leash dogs and to welcome visitors to the park.

The ranger will be scheduled in the park at varying hours, totally approximately 35 hours per week. Different ranges will be scheduled in the park depending on the schedule. Joanne is meeting with the head of the park rangers, Gene Survillo, next week to determine an initial schedule, which will be changed according to our needs.

**Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey**

Roseman Talk:

- Irwin Enrenich – Saturday, April 25, 2015 –
- 12:00 at the North End Public Library
- Susan Voloshin – Director prepared the flyer
- Cost: for Irwin - \$425. Include mileage

FOCCP Sponsorship a way of thanking the members of FOCCP.

**Board Election**

Members in good standing who wish to run for election as an Officer or a Direct-at-Large shall nominate themselves by submitting a nomination statement in writing no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the May meeting at which the election shall be held. Requests to be nominated shall be no longer than one page and shall include the member's name and address, and may optionally include a statement by the member in support of his or her candidacy. These **nomination statements are due on April 21, 2015** and should be sent to [info@foccp.org](mailto:info@foccp.org).

## **2015 Events**

### **MAY 2 12:00 - 2:00 Tot Lot Clean Up - Meghan**

The day has turned into a party! Joe Bono providing pizza. Lahey is doing the clean-up. Joe's American Bar is sponsor. There will be an Information/Membership Table.

Activities: Face Painting by Kindercare, Big Joe Storyteller, Firetruck.  
Anyone who is interested in volunteering, please contact Meghan.

### **JUNE 27 10:00-2:00 Independence Day Celebration - Ann Babbitt**

Ann looking for a co-chair to help organize the event.

Volunteers set up at 9:00 AM.

Ann has begun lining up the entertainers.

### **SUNDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: JOE BONO HAS AGREED TO HOST AGAIN. DATE TBA**

**SUNSET CRUISE???** Boston Harbor Cruises has agreed to donate a boat. Dates suggested are Wednesday, July 15 or Wednesday, July 29. Does anyone know of a conflict with other events in the area.

Robyn suggested changing the day to a Tuesday as the Horticulture Group meets on Wednesdays.

### **OCTOBER 12 COLUMBUS PARK CELEBRATION**

**NOV. 4 GALA.** Boston Harbor Hotel. Ann, Joanne and Meghan co-chairs..

### **NOV. 23 TRELIS LIGHTING**

#### **NEW BUSINESS: Meredith**

Meredith spoke about the scarves and hats that she placed in the park for anyone to take. All were taken!

Suggested doing it again in January. Anyone who would like to donate scarves and hats that they are no longer using, Meredith will gladly pick them up. She thought a good idea for FOCCP to do as we would be helping people who are cold. Could help anyone going through the park, even tourists who were not prepared for the cold weather.

Park will get publicity. The items could be hung by the trellis.

Some members suggested a knitting group.

Ann asked for March minutes to be approved.

Minutes approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk