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Friends of Christopher Columbus Park  
Monthly Meeting - July 13, 2010  
The Mariner House - North Square - Boston, MA

The meeting was convened at 6:30 by Joanne Hayes-Rines and was attended by 20 members

The June meeting minutes were read and accepted.

The Treasurer sent a report of the receipt of \$1070.00 from new member dues.

The Horticulture committee report that the roses are suffering greatly from the hot weather and lack of rain. The volunteer work continues on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. With the increase in volunteers, much more work is being done and they have been able to attend to the wisteria vine as well.

Cole Landers reported that the Infrastructure committee will meet at 6:30 on Monday, July 19 at the Bulletin Board in the Park. They will make their first walk thru of the Park to identify areas which need to be addressed. He added on the issue of the "doggy bags" for the Park, we need to go thru the formal process with the designated city personnel on this issue. Joanne will find out who that is.

Anne Devlin-Tagliaferro reported that the Marriott is OK with our purchasing desserts for the Gala at Mike's Pastry. We were not satisfied with the selection or cost of the desserts at last year's event. Committee chairs have been selected: Meredith Piscitelli - Greeters; Michele Brogan - Tickets; Beverly Knight and Carol Romano - Auction. Beverly asks members to begin to think about auction items. Event is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 19.

Audrey Tortolani reports for the Internet/Communications committee that the newsletter went out to 560 contacts; 90 bounced back. She's made some adjustments to the Website: added an "About us" section and enhanced the "What's Happening?" section. Ideas for newsletter are welcome.

Jay Thompson reports for the Lighting committee that he has gotten two new possible technologies from a designer and will next contact the manufacturers for more specific details. He hopes to be able to share more info soon.

Joanne reports that all the pretty stuff on the bulletin board is being done by Meredith Piscitelli. Thx, Merry!! She also reported the Navy Band -- Park Arts Kick-off concert was a great success. There were approximately 500 in attendance. The Navy personnel were very pleased with the facilities and food provided by the Marriott which Joanne had asked the Marriott to donate. She hopes that the FOCCP banner will be ready to be used for the next event in the Park.

The Sephora trees are being evaluated by Dominic Schumacher. He told Joanne that when he was trimming some trees and pulling out the dead tree, he thought he noticed the odor of salt water and that may be part of the problem. Perhaps no trees will survive along that walk. Joanne also said she has received a number of calls regarding the mud which accumulates around the children's fountain. She will discuss with the Maintenance supervisor, Steve Forcello at the Parks Dept.

Joanne received an email from the Commonwealth Shakespeare Co. who is exploring several parks in the city as possible locations for the presentation of a 1 hour performance on the theme of love in Shakespeare's plays and sonnets. The Commonwealth Shakespeare Co. is the group that has presented Shakespeare on the Common for a number of years and are quite well respected. If they selected our Park, they are petitioning for \$500 for the amplification system. There was general agreement that this would be a good idea. There was a suggestion that seeing a video of their work might be helpful in deciding and suggest they should promote the event on their website.

Joanne reports that Fran Marrone won't be able to chair the Columbus Day event in the Park. Joanne has agreed to lead the effort with a committee. Volunteers for the committee: Kathy Ray, Trish Bauer, Matt Conte, Michele Brogan, Ann Devlin Tagliaferro, Jess Williams and Liz Greene

Joanne reminds us that the FOCCP Tenth Anniversary celebration in 2011 will require a very strong and dedicated committee. All need to really think about what they will be able to do.

Kathy Ray raised the issue of how wet the lawn in the Park is. Cole reminded us that the Parks Dept is well aware of the drainage problem. Joanne will raise the issue with them

Meredith reminds all that FOCCP has a FaceBook page and that there are lots of pictures to view.

The meeting adjourned 7:30pm

Minutes prepared by Liz Greene, Clerk