

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Monthly meeting
February 8, 2011
The Mariner House
North Square
Boston, Ma.

In the absence of Joanne Hayes-Rines, the meeting was convened at 6:35 by Trish Baumer, Vice President. There were 20 attendees.

Treasurer report

Virginia reported that we received one donation this month. Reminded us that copies of the 2011 Budget, voted by the membership at the January meeting, is available by contacting her.

Fund raising committee

Anne Devlin Tagliaferro told us that, sadly, the Marriott Event Planner, who was wonderful to work with, is leaving the Marriott. Anne left a message that November 4 2011 is our preferred date for this year's event. The renovations at the hotel should be completed by June 2011

Membership committee

Beverly Knight reported that the committee is exploring the idea of a meet and greet event. More details to follow. The committee welcomed Pamela Keverly as a new member.

Meghan Denenberg, Meredith Piscatelli, and Trish Baumer reported on the citywide parks advocate meeting she attended. Attendees from many parks across the city participated. They reported it was a good forum for sharing ideas. Suggestions included: have each current member work at bring in one new member into the organization; sponsoring "member only" events; seeking grant funding to assist the organization. Meghan suggested various ways to volunteer, increase donations or recognize volunteers: shovel snow in front of the Park Bulletin Board; membership appreciation day ~receive a rose from the Garden; or dedicatory plaques on benches.

She asked members to send ideas to info@foccp.org More meetings are planned on 2/16 and 3/16 and Meghan will keep us posted.

Internet and Communication committee

Audrey Tortolani reported that 504 newsletters were sent out; only 5 returned; and 32.5% were opened.

She reported that committee members: Meredith, Alexa, Beverly Matt and Audrey had a very productive meeting. Developed 2011 Goals and came up with many new ideas to become more up-to-date technologically: interactive or blog type website, improved consistency of communications, possible connections with Twitter, google etc. This may need financial resources. They will advise the membership as they proceed

Horticulture committee.

Mary Ann Esparo reports the committee had a nice social get together last month. The weather will predict the starting date for garden activity. Meredith plans to do regular postings on "What's Blooming?" on the Bulletin Board.

VP report

Trish Baumer reports that there has been discussion about the May 2011 Tot Lot Clean Up. This year include a membership table. Should we also include anything additional because this is our anniversary year? Date is not yet definitive. Those interested should contact Mary Marenghi or email to info@foccp.org

Lighting committee

Attendees recognized and thanked Jay Thompson for the good work on the trellis lighting task. He shared with us that the Lentine Co., who put up the lights, used a photo of the lit trellis for their 2010 holiday cards!

Attendees also saw a clipping from the Daily Sentinel from Rome, New York showing an AP photo of walking under the trellis at night.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10

Minutes prepared by Liz Greene, Clerk