

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park  
Monthly meeting minutes  
June 14, 2011  
The Mariner House  
North Square  
Boston, MA

Trisha Baumer convened the meeting @ 6:42 pm., 18 members were in attendance.

Welcome Sandra Harcourt as new clerk and Liz Greene was thanked and applauded for many years of service as Clerk of FOCCP.

Minutes were approved as read

#### **Treasurer's Report - Virginia Kimball**

Virginia shared the account balances in the checking, CD, and Money Market. All accounts reflected little change in the balances this month.

#### **Horticulture Report - Mary Ann Esparo**

Mary Ann shared that the group is pruning like crazy in the Rose Garden. Mary Ann and Joanne met with Dominic Mannarino of Schumacher Landscape. The Boxwoods under bulletin board are burnt on both sides from animal deposits. Dominic suggested taking out the ones on the end and rotating the others to place burned side in. Mary Ann has added moth balls to the area and said if they yellow again we may want consider planting an alternative plant or abandon the idea of Boxwoods, all together .

Signage has been placed in the bulletin board and Crescent area to deter dogs' usage.

Mulch has been requested for center rose bed, Dominic will come back with a recommended varieties to choose.

Joanne contributed from the Presidents report -They have fertilized the Sophoras and Oaks last fall. All look better except for the Sophora nearest the water. Apparently, there is too much water in the area as this is the second tree in this spot needing replacement. It is still guaranteed so Dominic will removed it and give us quote on trimming some of the big Oaks on the walkway on the Park side near Tia's.

#### **Fundraising Report - Anne Devlin Tagliaferro**

No additional Gala details. She will send Joanne a get well basket. Flower Fund is whole as a result recent contributions from the Ladies Group.

#### **Infrastructure Report - Cole Landers**

Cole reported the Park has painted the Bollards (connect chain at waterfront), most of the railings and the bulletin board. The Infrastructure Committee is planning to meet this week. The committee is planning to review the initiatives they have shared with Ken Crasco who is a consultant to Parks Dept and is supposedly working on our list.

### **Lighting Committee - Jay Thompson**

It will difficult to light for 4<sup>th</sup> of July due to the growth on the Trellis. General consensus is not to have lights for summer due to the longs days of sunlight. Jay thought it best to save our money as we prepare for a larger lighting investment when we change these lights in the future years as we hope to replace them with color control programmable system.

### **Membership Report - Beverly Knight**

Beverly gave Meredith a big thank you for all her efforts. Memberships register at 219 after our month one of our membership drive which resulted in 50 new members.

The Living Room Membership Event was well attended, 60 people. 1-800 Flowers donated an arrangement for a raffle, won by a new member. Meghan Denenberg won the referral contest by bringing in 6 six new members. Kim, Pam and Beverly are working on a new event, information to follow.

Beverly will give some thought to having the membership booth up during Movie Night. She asked people to think about volunteering as it is only an hour shift. Also she challenged all of us to bring two new members each.

### **Internet Communications Report – Audrey Tortolani**

Last newsletter was sent to 501 addresses and 151 opened the newsletter. Seven bounced back and were immediately fixed by Meredith, thank you. On Face book we have “98 likes” and 94 active users, up 25% from last month. Meredith asked all of us go on Facebook and vote “like FOCCP” in addition to encouraging friends to do the same. Meredith reminded us that being “social” is a great way to spread the FOCCP word.

### **President Report submitted by Joanne Hayes-Rines, President (read by Trish Baumer Vice President)**

-Thank you to everyone who participated in Tot Lot Clean Up. There were about 40 people there. Warren from the Parks Department was a great help. Mary Marengi bought new sand toys, juice boxes, water and Ice Coffee from Starbucks. Peter O'Malley was our magician again and did a great job. Boston Best Cruises donated a goodie bag that we had a drawing for. Matt Conti filmed part of the day, very nice job. A possible suggestion to get leaf blower to contain the sand.

*Group discussion:* we agreed the blower may not be the best way. Konnie suggested a vacuum. The group thought if we improved the frequency of the Tot Lot it would be great and that Michelle Brogran had offered to head a committee to clean up Tot Lot monthly; there is an open action item to follow up.

-The 10th Anniversary Harbor Cruise is Wednesday July 20th at 7:15 pm. I have sent letters inviting our major sponsors to be our guests. All members need to encourage neighbors to sign up. As of this afternoon 48 paid guests 20 to VIP list. Capacity is 180, 100 to hundred and 120 would be great. Voyager III. Reminder to please sign up on line

-A couple of weeks ago Joanne sent out press releases about our 10th Anniversary activities. It was sent to the Regional Review and to Matt Conti. Matt also provided a list of news outlets to send the releases to. On June 13th I was interviewed by a Globe reporter about our group. I will let everyone know when it will be printed.

*Group Discussion:* The CCP was referenced during Bruins Game 5, "The dogs in CC Park were on shorter leashes than these hockey players."

### **Other Business**

Triad Statue Update - Meghan Denenberg reported via Trish Baumer  
There is a meeting scheduled in the next couple weeks to gather additional information.

Sunday Night Movie Update sponsored by Joe Bono  
Joe is responsible for the technical set up. Please review movie list and make suggestions, list was circulated amongst the membership for additional suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

1 attachment: Suggested Movie list, Membership Committee Report and Internet Communications Report.