

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

The meeting was convened at 6:40 by Joanne Hayes-Rines and attended by 24 members.

Joanne introduced new members. She reminded us that there are only 11 days till the Gala and all should have purchased tickets

October meeting minutes

Liz Greene(sitting in for Sandra Harcourt, Clerk) summarized the October agenda items. The full October minutes were circulated to the attendees for review.

Lighting report

Jay Livingston reported that he and Joanne Hayes-Rines did a walk- thru the Park with Lentine and Co. Each tree needs to be individually wrapped. Additional lighting will be placed at the park entrances. The wisteria will be trimmed and the lights will stay on til March.

In addition, Jay has prepared a map with the siting of the lights which can be used as a guide from year to year

MaryAnn Esparo asked why Lentine and Co. could not leave the trees wrapped year round. Jay will pose question to Lentine

Internet and Comminucations report

Audrey Tortolani reports that 4 newsletters went out to mailing list in October, with a 30% open rate

Meredith Piscitelli reports 157 Facebook followers on the FOCCP FaceBook page

Membership report

Beverly Knight reports 248 paid members with 96 of those joining this year.

Triad sculpture report

Joanne Hayes-Rines met with Parks Commissioner, Toni Pollack. There has been a rule change for the Browne Fund and they will not approve funds for feasibility studies. Our application has been temporarily withdrawn. The original \$10,000 voted by the FOCCP membership for feasibility may be efficient to bring the project to the next level. Will likely re-apply to the Browne Fund. Request to the Arts Commission has also been made and response is pending. The project has received, both verbal and written, support from Pollack, our state representative and abutters. Donna Freni suggests speaking with State Senator as well.

### Annual Trellis Lighting

Scheduled for Monday, November 21 at 5:30. It is an event which the City runs. Plans include Berklee college performers, caroling before event; participation by NEMPAC; the Marriott Long Wharf will provide fresh baked cookies and Starbuck's will provide chocolate; Santa will make an appearance. Jay Livingston will see if he can locate a large fake switch to make the lighting moment more dramatic!

Santa

### Gala Fundraiser report

Anne Devlin Tagliaferro encouraged all who have not purchased tickets yet to do so soon

### Gala Tickets

Virginia Kimball reminds all to make sure to submit timely receipts for reimbursement for Gala expenses. All receipts must be submitted to her BEFORE December 31. Paying 2011 bills after December 31 complicates our tax submissions

### Auction report

Cathy McCarthy reports that merchandise is coming in. Any info or updates on items should be directed to Sandra Harcourt and Rachaele Heulsman. FOCCP volunteers will be available to work the auction throughout the evening. A wireless credit card machine will be available which should simplify the check out. In addition, Sandra and Rachaele have created a auction format for use in the future

### Greeter reminders

Make sure that someone knows how to operationalize the FOCCP member "blinky lights" so that everyone will be able to activate properly  
Make sure the elevator is functioning and ready for attendees to go down to 1st floor ballroom!!!!

Auction Committee will hold a meeting next Tuesday, Nov 15 - they will send out an alert if they need help

MaryAnn Esparro made motion to approve October minutes, including the clarifying corrections suggested by Meredith Piscitelli; seconded by Audrey Tortolani. October Minutes approved unanimously

Adjourned 7:35

Minutes prepared by Liz Greene, substituting for Sandra Harcourt, Clerk