

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Monthly meeting
October 12, 2010
The Mariner House
North Square
Boston, MA

The meeting was convened at 6:40pm by Joanne Hayes Rines with 21 members in attendance.

Joanne acknowledged the success of the Christopher Columbus day celebration in the Park. Noted that approximately 500 people attended. The costs were just short of \$3000.

She hopes that the organization will show similar energy in the planning for the 10th anniversary of FOCCP in 2011.

September meeting minutes were read and accepted by the membership.

Treasurer report

Virginia Kimball apologized that her computer was not working and she was unable to print up her report.

Horticulture report

Mary Ann Esparo reports that the committee work in the gardens will end around mid-November. She raised the issue of a 2009 bill received for ground cover and requested advice regarding timely billing procedures. Sandra Harcourt and Cole Landers will advise.

MaryAnn also requested the board to endorse a letter of reference she wrote for Warren Watson. Unanimously endorsed.

Joanne Hayes-Rines met with Dominic from Schumacher. They did a walk thru in the Park. He gave her the proposal and schedule for pruning, fertilization and maintenance for the trees. Membership approved unanimously the expenditure of \$3795.00

Infrastructure report

Cole Landers reported on last week's meeting at City Hall with Toni Pollack and Ken Crasco. The July report, done in the summer by the committee, was made into briefing points for the meeting. The City has agreed to review the whole report and get back to FOCCP formally as a part of the overall city review of parks. Primary areas emphasized were the painting needs and the small round garden near the Marriott and the Promenade lighting. Also highlighted that the 55 gallon trash barrels are not the best option; maybe FOCCP could finance some and put FOCCP name on them? They also discussed, in general, where the City and FOCCP may be able to share expenses.

Joanne Hayes-Rines noted that she recently had the chance to do an evening walk thru the park with Councilor LaMattina and was able to illustrate the lighting problems.

Lighting report

Jay Thompson reports that after much investigation, the replacement lights for the Holiday Trellis lighting will be the same type as are currently used. John Lentine will get the final figures to Jay next week. Lahey will do the final pruning and fertilizing. All will be ready by 11/22.

Membership

Meghan Denenberg reported in Beverly Knight's absence. Conveyed appreciation for all of the members who helped with the Membership table for the Christopher Columbus event. A few new members signed up. Facebook hits are increasing

Internet and communications report

Audrey Tortolani reported that the September newsletter went to 519 addresses and only 9 bounced back. Updates for committee pages are ongoing and there were 440 visits to website just the last week.

Fundraising report

Ann Devlin Tagilaferro reported that all committees efforts are well underway. Auction items are coming in. Ten to twelve volunteers will be needed for the Auction Table. Weekly meetings will begin next week and will also meet at the regular monthly FOCCP meeting on November 9. Michele Brogan reported that 57 tickets have been sold. Reminded all that tickets will not be mailed out. There will be a check-in at the event. Ann reported that there will be a new band, complimentary specialty drink bar and a strolling violinist.

The meeting adjourned at 8pm

Minutes prepared by Liz Greene, Clerk