



Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

Meeting Minutes 03/12/19
Mariners House, Boston, MA

Meeting chaired by Ann DeLuca

Recording Meeting: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

January Minutes Distributed

Meeting began at 6:32pm

Board Members Attending: MaryGaye Grizwin, Patricia Thiboutot, Ann DeLuca, Robyn Reed

Board Members Absent: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Ann Babbitt, Rita Pagliuca, Ford Cavallari, Susanne Lavoie

Number of Members Attending: 4

Committee Reports:

-Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Treasurer Revenue for 2019 Park Events was \$110, which is 0% of the 2019 Budget of \$84,000. Prior year 2018 revenue was \$13,967. The decrease is due to 2017 Sponsorship Revenue received in 2018.

Fireworks revenue collected year to date is \$0. (Prior year was \$13,500. The decrease was due to 2017 Fireworks revenue received in 2018.)

General Membership revenue year to date is \$110 which is 0.5% of the 2019 budget of \$20.

-Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey - No Report

-Internet Communications: Joanne Hayes-Rines-Absent

March Newsletter: Open rate 43%

Website: On Events page added link to Parks Dept. events permit page

-Infrastructure: Ford Cavallari - No Report

-Horticulture: Robyn Reed

We still can't predict what day we will start in the garden yet, but we plan on sometime mid-April for our first day. Please stay tuned – we will email everyone on the horticulture list when we have a date.

Park Art Report: Robyn Reed

We decided to have the lights and heart decorations and sound up for the entire month of February, as well as the addition of the neon sculptures from Rose and Symga. The weather was a constant source of damage and maintenance for the decorations, and the Patriots fans did not help the Tunnel of Love installation this year. Parts of the installation are still up halfway into March because it has been too cold and there is still too much snow on the ground for us to be able to climb the ladders to remove the remaining decorations. They will be removed as soon as possible.

There are no plans for the next art installation right now for the park.

-Membership: MaryGaye Grizwin

Activities:

Met with Patricia Sabbey, Joanne Hayes-Rines, Cynthia Kelly, and Ann Babbitt to discuss strategies for business memberships.

Our supply of Membership brochures has been depleted. Comments have been submitted for formatting updates for the Business (Patricia & Cynthia) and Membership (MaryGaye) versions. . Because we have not been able to locate the brochure template, we may need to re-draft the brochures from scratch. This could be a blessing in disguise, but volunteer schedules do not

support having the work complete before the Social on April 3. The team will reconvene after the Social and provide an update at the May meeting.

2019 Membership Social is scheduled for Wednesday April 3 at Tia's.

Gail Hudak developed the mailing list from our contact database. We identified approximately 800 contacts who will be included in the mailing.

Invitation design and coordination of the printing was managed by Laura.

Invitations will be in the mail by Wednesday, March 13.

Posters will be ready for pickup Wednesday/Thursday this week. Meredith will coordinate distribution.

We anticipate about 40 attendees, similar to past years.

The menu is being coordinated by Allison Seavey and Patricia Thiboutot

We're introducing a small raffle this year, along with a simple FOCCP trivia contest. Winners will receive Sunset Cruise or gift certificates to local businesses.

-BOSTON HARBOR FIREWORKS FUND

This year there will be 2 events:

Thursday, August 29...Labor Day Kickoff...2 barges

Tuesday, December 31...New Year's Eve...2 barges

Fundraising efforts for 2018 came up short so there will not be fireworks to celebrate Independence Day.

-2019 EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt - Ann Babbitt will give a date. It will take place the week before Easter. It will be announced in Matt's blog.

Membership Social - Wednesday, April 3 - 6pm to 8pm at Tia's

Ann Babbitt has collected a couple of Gift Certificates for Social.

Playground Celebration - Saturday, May 4 - noon to 2pm

Independence Day - Saturday - June 29

Lawn Games - Saturdays, July 20 to Sept 14

Cruise - Tuesday, August 20

Fall Festival - Saturday, October 5

Trellis Lighting - Monday, November 25

-NEW BUSINESS

Marcy Bennett reported that Vertex has a grants program. They have a huge give back program. Also, Faneuil Hall Market Place has a lot of businesses that may have grant programs, as well as, One State Street.

Motion made, Seconded to approve the January Minutes.

Minutes approved as presented.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:14pm

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk