

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

February 13, 2018 Minutes

Meeting Chaired by: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Meeting: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

January Minutes Distributed

Meeting began at: 6:38 PM

Board Members Attending: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Susanne Lavoie, Ann DeLuca, Robyn Reed, Rita Pagliuca, Ford Cavallari, Beverly Knight, Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Absence: Ann Babbitt, Kelsey Griggs, Patricia Sabbey, MaryGaye Grizwin

FOCCP Members Attending: 5 - 2 guests (Dave Pellegrino & Rachel Waters)

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Revenue:

Total Revenue: YTD actual is \$25,700. Without the NYE Fireworks donations of \$13,500 revenue is \$12,200, which is 16% of the 2018 Budget of \$75,000. Prior YTD was \$200. Compared to this year's current revenue of \$12,200 (without Fireworks) the variance is due to prior year Sponsor revenue that we just received in 2018. (Conti \$10,000; Century \$1,000; Prince \$500; Lewis \$500)

General Membership: YTD actual is \$200 which is 1% of 2018 budget of \$18,000. Prior YTD was \$250.

Expenses:

Program Related Expenses: YTD \$2,770. Without NYE Fireworks of \$1,030 Program related expenses are \$1,740 which is 2% of 2018 budget of \$83,500. Prior year program related expenses were approximately \$600. Variance mainly due to prior year Park Ranger expense of \$1,355 that we just receive in 2018.

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey - Absent

Joanne reported that Patricia is working on sponsorships: Marriott, Joe's American Bar, Tia's. Membership raises \$20,000 per year. Sponsors: \$40,000.

Jack McCarthy suggested listing levels of sponsorships: Platinum, Gold, Bronze.

Internet-Communications: Kelsey Griggs - Absent

February 2018

Newsletter:

Tunnel of Love – Volunteers: 33% open

Feb NL: 35% Open

Tunnel of Love TODAY – 39% open

Facebook: 1,017 likes

Twitter: 325 followers

Instagram: 427 followers

Website:

February 2018: 397

February 2017: 703

We have two new helpers for the website! How lucky are we?! Rachel Walters and Dave Pellegrini. Rachel has extensive experience in Marketing and Dave is a skilled at

designing websites and will be able to help us jazz up our site. I am so thankful for the both of them!

Infrastructure: Ford Cavallari

February was a busy month preparing for the Tunnel of Love. Had to coordinate the lighting for Robyn. Build illuminated hearts. Reuse vinyl from Home Depot. Coordinate music for afternoon and evening for the event. Put in sound system with Steve Mirabella. Plays all night when lights are on. Have to adjust the sound. Speakers are located in the trellis. Will continue to tweak set up.

Membership: Beverly Knight

Working on Database with Rita, Gail and Meredith.

2017 - 291 Members includes individuals, couples and businesses

Beginning to organize Membership Drive in April. Notice to go out in March.

Venue to be determined but probably the Living Room.

Last year's Trivia Night was too costly as there was a low turnout. Cost \$300 plus food budget. If do Trivia Night again, may have to charge more to help with cost.

Horticulture: Robyn Reed

I contacted Schumacher Landscaping about talk about removing the roses from the side beds of the rose garden in the spring. The Horticulture group has decided we need to remove the roses because of the extensive root damage made by the rats, and replace them with new, easier to care for roses. Dominic from Schumacher will provide a quote for the project for me in the next few days and I will share that with the Board. The project has been budgeted for 2018.

On March 18 there will be a pot luck get together for the Horticulture volunteers to plan our upcoming season. We are very excited for spring!

Park Art:

A sincere Thank You goes out to everyone who helped out with the Tunnel of Love project - from conception to execution. It was a tremendous success and I could not have done it without the help from everyone. I estimated about 600 people walked through the Tunnel on Saturday, but others feel it was more than that. I know I provided 300 hearts for people to sign, and we gave out all of them, plus extras.

I am starting to plan the summer art projects, and my theme right now is "Birds, Bees and Butterflies." If anyone has any comments or suggestions or ideas, please contact me.

Thank You Presentation to Robyn Reed: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Joanne asked everyone with a phone to log onto www.foccp.org to see the new cover picture. Then, she presented Robyn a framed picture of the "north entrance to the Tunnel of Love" in recognition of all she did to make the event so wonderful.

Independence Celebration: Saturday, June 30th, 12:00 - 4:00. Chair is Ann Babbitt and she has engaged entertainers.

Also, **HarborFest** will be having their event on Sunday, July 1. It includes the art show and chowder fest.

BOSTON HARBOR FIREWORKS FUND

This year Friends of FOCCP will be working with the Wharf District Council and Boston Harbor Now to raise the money for 3 fireworks displays on the Boston Harbor:

Independence Day Celebration – Saturday, June 30 – 1 barge
Labor Day Kick-Off – Thursday, August 30 – 2 barges
Midnight New Year’s Eve – Monday, Dec. 31 – 2 barges
Fundraising Goal: \$200,000.

Joanne will go back to last year’s sponsors and contact potential sponsors. Already spoke to Marriott.

2018 EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt	April 1	Sunday	
Tot Lot Clean Up	May 5	Saturday	11am to 1pm
Independence Day	June 30	Saturday	Noon to 4pm
Lawn Games	June 30	Saturdays	Noon to 4pm
(June 30-Aug 25)	July 7		
	July 14	August 11	
July 21	August 18		
	July 28	August 25	
	August 4		

October 13 Fall Festival - Chair- Ann Babbitt

Croquet: Jack McCarthy will be hosting croquet on Wednesday evenings 5:30-7:30 beginning June 27th.

Other events: Music by NEMPAC - opera. FOCCP pays but they do all the work.

Movies July 22 Sundays

July 29
August 5 August 19
August 12 August 26

Cruise: August ??? Joanne will speak to co-chairs. Boston Harbor Cruise donates the ship. Listed as a Gold Sponsor.

Fall Festival: October 13, Saturday

Trellis Lighting: November 19, Monday

New Business: Reminder Valentines Coffee House, Thursday, Feb. 15 at 6:30.

Venue No. Bennett School. Hosted by North End Library.

January minutes approved as presented.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM

Respectfully submitted: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk