



Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

Mariners House

July 9, 2019

Meeting Chaired by: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Distribute June Minutes.

Meeting began at 6:30 PM

Board Members Attending: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Ann Babbitt, Susanne Lavoie, Patricia Sabbey, MaryGaye Grizwin, Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Absent: Robyn Reed, Rita Pagliuca, Ford Cavallari, Ann DeLuca

Members Attending: 4

Committee Reports:

--**Treasurer:** Ann DeLuca - Absent

Report given by Joanne Hayes-Rines

Revenue:

Revenue through June 30, 2019 for the Park was \$25,351, which is 30% of the 2019 Budget of \$84,000. Prior year 2018 revenue was \$34,040. The decrease is due to 2017 Sponsorship Revenue that was received in 2018.

Fireworks revenue collected year to date is \$3,500. (Prior year was \$13,500. The decrease was due to 2017 Fireworks revenue received in 2018.)

General Membership revenue through June 30, 2019 is \$15,406 which is 77% of the 2019 budget of \$20,000. Prior year membership revenue was \$14,391.

Expenses:

Program Related Expenses year to date are \$21,092 which is 28% of 2019 budget of \$76,200.

Prior year program related expenses were approximately \$26,441. The increase is mainly due to the expanded Valentine's Day event.

--**Fundraising:** Patricia Sabbey

I will show people the new business brochure. I will explain that this is in addition to our sponsor brochure. Sponsorships begin at \$1000 so this is a chance for businesses/condo associations to join and receive recognition at a lower cost level.

-- **Internet Communications report** – Joanne Hayes-Rines

March Newsletter: Open rate 35%

Web site: Added information on new Tree and Bench program

-- **Infrastructure Committee Report:** -Ford Cavallari -Absent-No Report

--**Horticulture Report-** Robyn Reed - Absent

Report given by Patricia Thiboutot

The collective mind of the group has been working on the rabbit problem in the rose garden: we have put up deer fencing around the roses, Sprinkled baby powder, chili powder and professional rabbit deterrent pellets and we think it is working. The roses, while not anywhere near their usual bountiful beauty, are not getting eaten any longer by the rabbits.

And even though we see the bunnies in the crescent garden, they do not seem to be eating any of the plants there. The crescent garden is looking spectacular right now and we planted nasturtiums that should be blooming at the end of the month to add even more color to the beautiful palette we have now. We will be cutting back the salvia after it's bloom in a few weeks.

--**Park Art Report:** Robyn Reed- Absent-No Report

--**Membership Report:** MaryGaye Grizwin: No Report

--**Facebook:** Meredith

June 1st - 1,283

July 1st - 1,400

July 9th - 1,410

--**Independence Celebration:** Ann Babbitt

Unfortunately, our Independence Day celebration was cancelled. We postponed our decision until 10:00am the morning of the event, The forecast never changed....thunderstorms beginning at 1:00 pm. We had no choice. This was our 3rd cancellation in two years. We had a long run of sunny days for our events. Mother Nature hasn't been kind to us lately. So disappointing. Packed and ready to go for Fall Festival and July 4th 2020!

--**Harbor Cruise** -- Report by Camille Hogan and Stephanie Walker

Tuesday, August 20. Tickets available online \$40.00 per person

Full Steam Ahead! Dom's Caterer, DJ - Lydia's niece.

Need prizes for raffle. Laurie will put together baskets.

Working on timing for selling raffle tickets.

So far, 9 tickets sold.

--**2019 Movies in the Park July 21 -August 25**

6 movies Cost: \$2850 Cost (\$475 per show)

Mark your calendar now for every Sunday from July 21 through August 25

July 21 Casablanca (PG)

July 28 Some Like it Hot (G)

August 4 Greatest Showman (PG)

(\$475 August 11 Back to the Future (PG13)

August 18 Million Dollar Baby (PG13)

August 25 Black Panther (PG13)

--**Tree and Bench Program:** MaryGaye Grizwin

FOCCP has received approval for Program from Parks Department-

12 year program. Plaque on Trees and Benches

Brochure detailing program plus postcards to be given out at events. Would like to have a big splash when bench is purchased. Benches will be numbered. Coordinate with Parks Dept. for delivery of bench and plaque.

New Parks Commissioner: Ryan Woods replacing Chris Cook who is now Environmental Director. We will work with Ryan Woods.

Christopher Columbus Park and Boston Public Gardens only parks that do this program in the city. FOCCP will receive \$2,000 for each Tree or Bench purchased.

--**BOSTON HARBOR FIREWORKS FUND**

This year there will be 2 events:

Thursday, August 29 ... Labor Day Kickoff ... 2 barges were planned but, unfortunately, the funds weren't raised to cover 2 so there will only be one.

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.

Fireworks page is up on our website with link to how people can make a donation.

--IRREVERENT WARRIORS

This non profit group contacted us about a hike veterans are having through Boston, starting in the South End and ending at Fenway Park. Approx. 350 veterans will walk on Saturday, August 24, and they will visit veterans' memorials along the way. They're stopping by the Beirut Memorial from 11:45am to 12:15am and will get refreshments at Joe's and Sail Loft. The veterans hike with 50# packs on their backs wearing "silkie" and combat boots. "We bring veterans together using humor and camaraderie to improve mental health and prevent veteran suicide."

--2019 EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt – Ann Babbitt
Membership Social – April 3 – 6pm to 8pm
Playground Celebration – May 4 -- Noon to 2pm
Independence Day – Saturday, June 29
Lawn Games – July 20 to Sept. 14
Croquet on Wednesdays through August
Cruise – August 20
Fall Festival – October 5
Trellis Lighting -- November 25 Monday

--NEW BUSINESS: Susanne Lavoie - Plymouth 2020 - May 14

Mayflower coming to Boston escorted by the Constitution. There maybe some coordination with the Park.

June Minutes Approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:34 PM

Respectfully submitted: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk