



**Friends of Christopher Columbus Park**

April 12, 2019 Meeting  
Mariners House

Chairing Meeting: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Meeting began at: 6:40 PM

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

Board Members Absent: Ann DeLuca, Ford Cavallari, Rita Pagliuca, Patricia Sabbey,  
Members Attending: 5 (including 2 new members)

March Minutes Distributed

**Committee Reports:**

--**Treasurer:** Ann DeLuca (Absent)-Joanne Hayes-Rines read the report.

**Revenue:**

Revenue for 2019 Park Events was \$5,862, which is 7% of the 2019 Budget of \$84,000. Prior year 2018 revenue was \$19,492. The decrease is mainly due to 2017 Sponsorship Revenue of \$16,000 that was 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 (3/31/19) is \$5,162 which is 26% of the 2019 budget of \$20,000. Prior year to date membership revenue was \$851.

(The Membership drive results, which was on April 3, 2019, are not reflected in this month's Treasurer's report. The Annual Membership Event Revenue was \$2,300. Prior Year was \$1,805. This was a 27% increase year over year.)

**Expenses:**

Program Related Expenses year to date are \$11,037 which is 14% of 2019 budget of \$76,200.

Prior year program related expenses were approximately \$6,620. The increase is mainly due to the expanded Valentine's Day event.

--**Membership:** MaryGaye Grizwin

## YTD Membership Results – thru April 8, 2019 compared to Year End 2018

2019 Year to Date	Total			Renewals			New		
	Members	Donation	Per Member	Members	Donation	Per Member	Members	Donation	Per Member
January	2	\$ 60	\$ 30	2	\$ 60	\$ 30	0	\$ -	\$ -
February	1	\$ 50	\$ 50	0	\$ -	\$ -	1	\$ 50	\$ 50
March	58	\$ 5,740	\$ 99	56	\$ 5,590	\$ 100	2	\$ 150	\$ 75
April thru 4/8	65	\$ 4,275	\$ 66	53	\$ 3,615	\$ 68	12	\$ 660	\$ 55
YTD	126	\$ 10,125	\$ 80	111	\$ 9,265	\$ 83	15	\$ 860	\$ 57
% of 2018 Total	56%	45%		61%			33%		
2018 Year End TOTAL	Total			Renewals			New		
	Members	Donation	Per Member	Members	Donation	Per Member	Members	Donation	Per Member
Businesses	12	\$ 2,230	\$ 186	7	\$ 445	\$ 64	5	\$ 1,785	\$ 357
Individuals / Couples	214	\$ 20,265	\$ 95	174	\$ 16,540	\$ 95	40	\$ 3,725	\$ 93
Total	226	\$ 22,495	\$ 100	181	\$ 16,985	\$ 94	45	\$ 5,510	\$ 122

### Year to Date Results – Strong demonstration of support for the Park!

Significant advancement against Year-Over-Year and 2018 Ending Results

Donations to date = 45% of 2018 donation totals

Memberships = 56% of 2018 totals

57 members contributed \$5,740 immediately after our Membership mail drop – in advance of the Membership Social

One member renewed at the Park (\$1000) level

### Membership Social Results - April 3, 2019

Record breaking attendance and membership donations for the 2nd year in row.

\$2300 total donations; 27% over our 2018 Social

Over 65 attendees vs approximately 40 attendees in 2018

9 new memberships (individuals/couples)

67% memberships via PayPal

Raffle for New / Renewing members was received well – a new idea this year

Introduction of new membership brochures, designed and by Elle Design &

Communications and printed by Boston Business Printing

Fabulous food, venue, location – Thank you, Katie Gorman and Tia's restaurant!

--**Fundraising:** Patricia Sabbey-Absent-No Report

-- **Internet Communications:** Joanne Hayes-Rines

March Newsletter: Open rate 43%

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

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

--- **Horticulture:**– Robyn Reed

The horticulture group has begun meeting already! A hardy group was out in the crescent garden and under the wisteria on Sunday. We will start working in the rose garden soon.

We are meeting every Sunday until the end of October from 9:30 to 11am, but we have changed the day and time of our other meetings. We have cancelled both the Wednesday evening and Thursday morning gardening, and now we have just Wednesday morning gardening from 8:30-10am.

Discussion of unlocking and locking the Rose Garden gate. Park Ranger locks it at 4:30. Horticulture committee will develop a schedule of volunteers, if decided, to lock it later. Will ask Parks Dept. people to open it in the mornings.

--**Park Art:** Robyn Reed

Announcement: The two women who had the neon sculptures in our park during the Month of Love will be showing their work in the Boston Harbor Pop-Up Gallery starting \ April 25 so, if you missed it in the park in February, you can come to the gallery and see it there.

--**FOCCP Annual Election for Officers and Directors-at-large**

Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 14 – the date of our monthly meeting

The officers are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Clerk and there are 2 at large positions.

Notice of the meeting will be sent to members in good standing by April 14.

Those interested in running for office nominate themselves.

Nomination Statements deadline: May 9.

--**Marathon Daffodils**

For the past several years, a non profit group has raised the funds for approximately 200,000 potted daffodils to be planted from Hopkinton to Boston to welcome the runners on Marathon Day. The FOCCP board has approved a request from Meredith Piscitelli to donate \$500 to the project for the approximately 200 plants that will be placed in the park this year as has been done the last few years.

Volunteers Needed: Friday morning to place the plants around the park. Time to be announced by Meredith.

--**Ann Babbitt Report:**

The Easter Egg hunt is scheduled for Easter week...4-15 thru 4-19 (the 1st good day of the week. Becca, the director of Boston Community Collaborative organizes the hunt and will make the decision. Volunteers from FOCCP will be stuffing the eggs 2 days (Friday the 12th & Monday the 15th)

--Plans for our **Independence Day** celebration have been finalized. Once again Jim, the Bubble Guy will be available. His decision rounds out the entertainment, Singing & dancing with 2 Disney characters TBD & Uncle Sam, Peter the Magician & Big Joe, the Storyteller. Please sign up now as a volunteer for one of our most fun-filled events of the year.

--**2019 Movies in the Park** July 21 – August 25 – 6 movies

Need to select the movies for this year. All must be rated G or PG. Request for suggested movies. Joanne asked members to send their suggestions for this year.

--**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 – Week of April 15  
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  
Cruise – August 20  
Fall Festival – October 5  
Trellis Lighting -- November 25 Monday

**--NEW BUSINESS:** Meredith Pisicatelli gave report on Facebook Page. Page getting more popular as of today 1338 Likes. Carol Bender chooses the photos for the page. New website is simple and easy to navigate. Sends emails of people who check website to Gail Hudak. She adds them to her mailing list.

March Minutes Approved as presented.  
Meeting Adjourned: 7:56 PM  
Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk