

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Meeting Feb. 14, 2017
Mariners House

Chairing Meeting President, Joanne-Hayes Rines
Recording Meeting, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk
January Minutes Distributed
Meeting began at 6:30 PM

Board Members Attending: Joanne-Hayes Rines, Susanne Lavoie, Beverly Knight,
Patricia Sabbey, Ann DeLuca, Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Absent: Ann Babbitt, Robyn Reed, Joe Bono, Ford Cavallari,
Kelsey Griggs

3 FOCCP members attending

Reports:

Membership: Beverly Knight
4 renewals, 1 new member

Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Not many expenses. \$800. for Valentine Lights (2 cupids, 2 hearts). Electrician storing lights.

Preliminary budget set up.

Joanne added that she would like to see 3 more hearts next year even adding music to enliven this area. Not enough activity. Would like to work with Harbor Fest.

Horticulture: Robyn Reed - Absent - No Report

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey

Prepared Certificates of appreciation for sponsors. Using Matt's photos with his permission. Some are framed and some are in folders. Asked members to distribute them. Certificates in folders were signed by board members.

Internet Communications: Kelsey Griggs - Absent

Joanne read report:

Newsletter:

February Newsletter: 34% open rate

Facebook: 826

Twitter: 268

Instagram: 33 followers

Website:

January 2017: 1,728

February 2016: 1,513

February 2017: 619

Want to start working on a new Newsletter. We need to move to a responsive design, which means, “allowing desktop webpages to be viewed in response to the size of the screen or web browser one is viewing with.”

Basically meaning you can view the page correctly on whichever devices you use (desktop, tablet, phone, etc.).

Any and all suggestions welcome: Email: Kelseyegriggs@gmail.com.

Infrastructure: Ford Cavallari - Absent - No Report

Trellis Lights– Joanne H-R

On-going problem with the lights. Steve Mirabella isn't sure what's causing it. The GFIs? The lights themselves? Yesterday I contacted the Bill Burns, Electrical Inspector by email and voice message. No response. I sent email to Maria Lanza, Neighborhood Services rep for the city. She was going to reach out to Burns today. I called John Lentine, he put the lights up for 12 years and we never had a problem with this. He says there are GFIs on some of the trees with white lights and they've not been impacted.

2017 Events planned:

Independence Day Celebration ... Saturday, July 1.

Sunday Night Movies ... dates TBD

Cruise ... date TBD

Columbus Day Fall Festival ... Monday, Oct. 9

Lawn Games. Found a company Perfect Parties USA that can provide games such as croquet, cornhole, bocce, etc. Does anyone know anyone else who does this? They can provide a staff member to stay. Estimate time from noon to 4pm. Normal charge: \$750. Company came down to \$500 per Saturday. Approved by the Board at the last board meeting.

Jack McCarthy going to host Croquet Evenings - Wed. 5:30-7:30. JD Edwards sponsoring event - FOCCP Hosting.

Kelsey, Camille and Stephanie came up with idea of games.

Dance Parties ... Board approved budget of \$1500. Nothing scheduled yet. Coordinate with Greenway as they are having their Celebrity Series.

Art Show is part of Harbor Fest.

Discussion on volunteers. One Brick was used for birthday event. Navy personnel from the Constitution are available to volunteer. Information to be given to Ann Babbitt.

MaryGaye offered to cohost events with Ann Babbitt.

Suggestion that smaller banners with sponsors names be ordered to use at events.

New Year's Eve Fireworks. Working with Wharf District Council and Boston Harbor Now to bring them back for next year. FOCCP will take the lead with WDC to fund raise. Fireworks are planned for July 1 on the Harbor as part of Harbor Fest.

Dusty Rhodes of Boston Harbor Now will be coordinating Tall Ships. Conventures collecting donations and will do publicity. Joanne designed Donation Form to include FOCCP.

Board has not decided to work with Conventures on this or collect funds independently. Matt Conti willing to donate.

Cost for Fireworks \$40,000 per event.

Park Ranger: Joanne

The board did approve \$5,000 for the Park Ranger. I'm meeting with Chris Cook on the 27th along with a few board members. We'll discuss this with him at that time.

No New Business

Minutes Approved as presented.

Meeting adjourned: 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park Meeting Mariners House

April 11, 2017 Meeting began at 6:35pm

Meeting chaired by Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording the meeting is Kelsey Griggs for Patricia Thiboutot

February Minutes were distributed

Board Members Attending: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Ann Babbit, Susanne Lavoie, Kelsey Griggs, Robyn Reed, Beverly Knight

Board Members Absent: Ford Cavallari, Joe Bono, Patricia Sabbey, Patricia Thiboutot, Ann DeLuca

7 members present – 1 new Member Marjorie Wick (found us from the local papers)

Committee Reports

- Membership and Social report - Beverly Knight
 - DonorSnap Issues –struggle with email addresses not being correct but actively working to rectify this situation
 - Membership Social
 - Last Thursday was our membership social trivia night. Think it is a very successful event. John gave us all 6 gift cards of \$15 for free! Food Delivery is the only issue with the living room. But the food was delicious. Servers were amazing. I think we brought in 800 for the 300 we paid (need to clarify with Ann D.). Kudos to Ann and Allison and they both did such a wonderful job decorating for the Social
- Horticulture report – Robyn Reed
 - We are going to begin working in the garden on APRIL 20. That is a Thursday morning. We are ADDING a THURSDAY MORNING gardening opportunity from 8:30-9:30 am each week. We are still meeting on SUNDAY mornings starting APRIL 23. We will start at 9:30 am but extend the time until 11:00 am. We are still meeting on WEDNESDAY evenings starting APRIL 26. We meet from 6:00-7:00 pm. As always, please come and go as you like or need - you do not have to get there when we start, and you can leave when you need to - no one needs to stay the entire time. We will be adding plants to the Crescent garden that will specifically attract bees. Terese will be sending out her weekly emails as she did last year. If you'd like to join us in the garden, please wear closed-toe shoes and appropriate clothes for working with roses.. We recommend wearing a hat and sunscreen, and to bring water to stay hydrated.
- Park Arts Curator – Robyn Reed
 - Coming up with ideas to do around the park. No plans of yet but working on it and talking to lots of members of the community. Working on an idea for February: Pet Kissing Booth, Family Events, Music in the park for the month. Will keep updated on progress.
- Fundraising report – JHR for Patricia Sabbey.
 - Patricia has contacted Kindercare for a donation.
- Internet Communications report – Kelsey Griggs

MARCH 2017:
Newsletter:
March Newsletter: 37%
March Meeting Cancelled: 38%
Membership Social Preview: 36%
Facebook: 830

Twitter: 271

Instagram: 130 Carole Ball Took Over Instagram and has done an AMAZING job.

Website:

March 2017: 760

March 2016: 963

APRIL 2017

Newsletter:

April Newsletter: 33%

Membership Social Blitz 1: 32%

Membership Social Blitz 2: 28%

Facebook: 849

Twitter: 275

Instagram: 149

Website:

April 2017: 323

April 2016: 1,033

Trellis Lights– Joanne H-R

All problems solved. The white tree lights will come down next week probably. We need to have LED security lighting installed under the horizontal beams of the trellis. We dismantled the old ones. They have to be installed before we can turn off the blue lights.

2016 Events planned:

- **Independence Day Celebration** ... Saturday, July 1. This coincides with Harbor Fest (put on by Conventures), which will host the arts festival under the trellis, using just the center section. Ann will discuss set up. We will need as many hands as possible to help that day. We have the sailors from the Constitution coming who can help with lawn games – from Perfect Parties company. I added an extra game for that day: Horseshoes, 3 corn hole, Giant Chess, Ladder Golf, Bocce (Additional game options for other Saturdays are Giant Jenga, Giant Chess and Croquet). There will not be the musical petting zoo this year but the other acts will be there. We will be getting advertisement from Conventures for a cool \$25!
- **Lawn Games** ... Saturdays from July 1 through August 26. Rain cancel policy. The day can be rescheduled later so if we have to cancel, we can reschedule in September or even October.
- **Tot Lot Clean Up:** May 6th. Meghan taking care of.
- **Sunday Night Movies** ... July 9 to August 27
- **Cruise** ... August 22
- **Dance Parties** ... Board approved budget of \$1500. Nothing scheduled yet.
- **Wednesday Croquet** ... Jack McCarthy will host evening croquet in the summer. June 7 to Aug 30 (except July 5). Will be billed as FOCCP event sponsored by JD Edwards. 5:30 to 7:30pm.
- **Columbus Day Fall Festival** ... Monday, Oct. 9

Marathon Daffodils- Meredith Piscitelli – Daffodils will be delivered on Friday April 14th. Son owns the greenhouse that is donating the flowers. He gets the bulbs from the Netherlands - and dedicates a greenhouse to keeping them fresh - they are in planters and they are being forced to bloom so that they will be blooming come Marathon Monday 250 Marathon Daffodils will be coming to FOCCP ---- I'm forwarding you an article done last year about my son Matthew's involvement in the Daffodil

Project. It is his way of sharing the Boston Strong feeling surrounding the marathon since the bombings and showing respect for participants. Because of a donation one of his companies, Olson's Greenhouses in Raynham, made to the fund, CC Park will be receiving a minimum of 250 planted pots of Marathon Daffodils on Friday. Horticulture plans to put them in the wells at the bottom of all the columns holding the trellis. We're hoping people will respect the display and not take any until after the Marathon, on Monday. We are all welcome to them at that time. Volunteers welcome

Report on meeting with Commissioner Chris Cook on Feb. 27 with Board Member Robyn Reed.

New Year's Eve Fireworks. Working with Wharf District Council and Boston Harbor Now to bring them back for next year. FOCCP will take the lead with WDC to fund raise. Fireworks are planned for July 1 on the Harbor as part of Harborfest.

New Business – No New Business

Ask for edits/changes to minutes. Minutes Approved

Meeting Adjourned 7:56 PM

Minutes Respectfully Submitted: Kelsey Griggs – Website and Communications Chair

**Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Mariners House**

May 09, 2017 Meeting began at 6:33 PM

Ann Babbitt chairing meeting for Joanne Haynes-Rines

Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk, recording minutes

Board Members Attending: Ann Babbitt, Ann DeLuca, Patricia Thiboutot,

Board Members Absent: Joanne Haynes-Rines, Robyn Reed, Kelsey Griggs,
Patricia Sabbey, Beverly Knight, Susanne Lavoie, Joe Bono, Ford Cavallari

Members Attending: 11 (including one new member: Frank Ulip)

Committee Reports:

Membership: Beverly Knight - Absent - No Report

Treasurer's Report: Ann DeLuca

We had approximately \$8600 in membership donations income to date.

Expenses were for Lawn games \$1000 and Valentine's day lights for the trellis
\$1000. Startup expenses for Horticulture Committee \$400.

\$100 donation to the Beacon Park Advocates.

Discussion regarding process for Donor Snap and Constant Contact.

Suggestion that reminder for membership be sent out in June.

Meredith gave times for gardening: Wednesdays - 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM,

Thursdays - 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM, Sundays 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Working on Crescent. Need to cut down plants. Girl Scouts planted humming bird
seeds. Raked. Told a story by Meredith about a thirsty dragon.

Meredith said the daffodils for Marathon Day was a huge success. 250 plants

donated and delivered by her son's nursery. Volunteers distributed the plants around the trellis.

Pauline found that 6 were taken and she found them in a tree. 16-17 left over and were given to the
library as they made a donation.

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey-Absent- No Report although Ann Babbitt said
that Patricia is constantly reaching out to donors. The latest one - she met
Holly from Faneuil Hall. Good to have that connection.

Internet Communications Report: Kelsey Griggs: Absent - Report read by Ann Babbitt

APRIL 2017

Newsletter:

April Newsletter: 33%

Membership Social Blitz 1: 32%

Membership Social Blitz 2: 28%

Facebook: 849

Twitter: 275

Instagram: 149

Website:

April 2017: 323 (ended at 954)

April 2016: 1,033

MAY 2017

Newsletter:

May NL:34%

Tot Lot: 36%

Tot Lot/Corrections:32%

Mayor Coffee: 35%

Facebook: 859 as of 9:30 am

Twitter: 277

Instagram: 190

Website:

May 2017: 277

May 2016: 1880

Infrastructure: Ford Cavallari - Absent - No Report

Tot Lot Celebration: Ann Babbitt

A huge success even though it rained. 27 sand toys were purchased at the Dollar Store at a cost of \$27.00! Fire Truck came to the children's delight.

Two new members. One paid on PayPal the other sending check.

Trellis Lights– Joanne H-R

The blue lights were turned off last week. The remaining white lights on the horizontal beams and the "ribs" provide sufficient security lighting until permanent LED security lighting can be installed under the horizontal beams of the trellis. Steve Mirabella of Sanibel Electric has gotten pricing for the new security lights and installation: \$9400. He is working with distributor to try to get a discount.

Tree Pruning – Joanne H-R

Met with Mark Miller of Leahy Landscaping on Monday, May 7. He will give me a quote on the following:

- prune large oaks along the trellis
- the oak that was planted a year or so ago near the statue to replace an old oak tree that died has died. Mark is checking records to see when the tree was planted.
- Remove the 2 sophora trees that are on the west side of the lawn. We had them planted about 6 years ago. A couple died in recent years. The 2 that remain on the west side look awful. They've been deep root fertilized, and pruned the last few years and still look awful so I'm getting a quote to have them removed.
- Remove a dead oak tree that is in the lawn, parallel to the trellis. FOCCP had that tree planted about 8 years ago.
- Prune trees across from Tia's, removing one large broken branch and dead branches.

All of those items will be in one quote. We have budgeted \$5,000 for tree maintenance. Pruning cannot exceed \$4,000 so we have \$1,000 for fall fertilizing.

A separate quote to prune the trees near Tia's will be forwarded to the City to see if they want to have it done. Those trees are really in bad shape and beyond the scope of what we should take care of. I believe they are on City property.

2017 Events planned (reported last month)

Independence Day Celebration ... Saturday, July 1. – Ann Babbitt

This coincides with Harbor Fest, which will host the arts festival under the trellis, using just the center section. Ann discussed set up. We will need as many hands as possible to help that day.

We have the sailors from the Constitution coming who can help with lawn games – from Perfect Parties company. I added an extra game for that day:

Horseshoes, 3 corn hole, Giant Chess, Ladder Golf, Bocce (Additional game options for other Saturdays are Giant Jenga, Giant Chess and Croquet).

Ann discussed that she needs lots of volunteers. MaryGaye will co-chair event.

She has been in touch with the sailors from the Constitution. Ann said face painting will be at both entrances to the trellis. Information booth at each end. Robyn has ideas for a craft table.

Balloon person, bubble man, juggler will be there. Art show will be in the middle trellis.

A call for more volunteers will be sent through the June newsletter.

Lawn Games ... Saturdays from July 1 through August 26. Rain cancel policy. The day can be

rescheduled later so if we have to cancel, we can reschedule in September or even October. Sunday

Night Movies ... July 9 to August 27 ... Need suggestions for movies. List of previous movies given out.

Members had suggestions for this season. Ann will see if they are available.

Cruise ... Tuesday, August 22. Boston Harbor Cruises will donate the beautiful ship Rendezvous for our event. Camille Hogan, Stephanie Walker and Kelsey Griggs will again co-chair.

Wednesday Croquet ... Jack McCarthy will host evening croquet in the summer. June 7 to Aug 30 (except July 5). Will be billed as FOCCP event sponsored by JD Edwards. 5:30 to 7:30pm.

Columbus Day Fall Festival ... Monday, Oct. 9

New Year's Eve Fireworks Update. Working with Wharf District Council and Boston Harbor Now to bring them back for next year. FOCCP will take the lead with WDC to fund raise. Goal is to raise \$80,000 for 2 fireworks barges, one at each end of the harbor. To date, we have pledges totaling \$35,000 from Marriott, NorthEndBoston.com, Boston Harbor Hotel and HarborSide Inn. Donato Frattaroli has offered to talk with other restaurateurs in the North End and expects to be able to raise \$10,000 to \$15,000. On-going efforts with East Boston businesses and Seaport.

No New Business

Minutes accepted with one correction

Meeting adjourned: 7:40 PM Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

**Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Mariner's House**

Annual Meeting June 13, 2017

Chairing Mtg. Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Time: 6:30 PM

Distributed May Minutes

Board Members Attending: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Ann Babbitt, Ann DeLuca,
Patricia Sabbey, Robyn Reed, Kelsey Griggs, Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Absent: Beverly Knight, Ford Cavallari, Susanne Lavoie, Joe Bono

Members Attending: 10

4 Guests Attending

Election:

Election of Candidates:

Joanne Hayes-Rines opened the meeting and announced the Annual Officer and Board members election would be held tonight. Liz Greene, former Clerk, would be managing the process as the current Clerk, Patricia Thiboutot is one of the nominees.

Liz read the individual nomination statements by nominees for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Clerk and Board Members at-large (all nomination statements are attached). As there were no contested nominations, there is no need for actual voting.

Joanne Hayes-Rines made a motion to accept nominations as presented. It was seconded by Meredith Piscitelli and voted unanimously by the attending membership.

Joanne further announced that all Committee chairs have agreed to stay on in their roles for Fund Raising, Horticulture, Membership and Infrastructure.

Those listed below nominated themselves and have been accepted for the year 2017-2018 year.

President: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Vice President: Ann Babbitt

Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Clerk: Patricia Thiboutot

Susanne Lavoie: Director-at-Large

Rita Pagliuca: Director-at-Large

Joe Bono was recognized for his work and support of FOCCP.

A welcome was given to Rita Pagliuca as Director-at-Large.

The following have agreed to serve again as Committee Chair and Board Members:

--Membership - Beverly Knight

--Horticulture - Robyn Reed

--Fundraising - Patricia Sabbey

--Internet Communications - Kelsey Griggs

--Infrastructure Committee - Ford Cavallari

Committee Reports:

Membership and Social Report: Beverly Knight: Absent - No Report

Treasurer's report: Ann Deluca

We had approximately \$12,000 in general membership donations income year to date. (\$100 Biz membership)

Expenses were for Lawn games \$1000, Movies \$1900 and Valentine's day lights for the trellis \$1000. Startup expenses for Horticultural Committee \$800 ytd.

The 2016 federal and state tax return has been completed for approximately \$1800.

This includes preparation of the 1099s.

Horticulture Report: Robyn Reed

The addition of a third time to garden during the week, on Thursday mornings at 8:30am, has proved to be very popular. We were able to cut back all of the bush roses this year and trim off all the dead wood, which should result in a spectacular regrowth and blooms, and significantly add to the health of the rose bushes. We didn't lose any rose bushes this winter, and the entire garden looks healthy except for a little black spot and many bushes have started blooming last week. The crescent garden looks good, and the wisteria will start being trimmed this week.

At the Mayor's Coffee Hour in the Park on May 31 many of the members of the Horticulture committee spoke with Chris Cook, the Commissioner of the Park Dept. and he said he would do three things for us this year –

Join the gardeners in the park one Wednesday evening (not scheduled yet)

Pay for half of the cost of a new set of name tags for the roses

Add lights to shine on the crescent garden.

He also remembered that he is going to pay for the face painting for the June event.

We always invite members and new gardeners to join us. We will train you and provide all the tools. Please see the website for the days and times and what to wear.

Park Art Report: Robyn Reed

The first art project "Poems in the Park" project was installed on May 19 and we had a number of people participate in the activity of reading poems aloud, but unfortunately the entire piece was removed mysteriously 5 days later. After checking with many of the employees of the Parks Dept., the Park Rangers and with Joan Murphy, we still don't have any information on who removed it or why. The piece was replaced last week, and as of tonight, it is still up and I have replaced the poems in the holder twice, so people are taking the poems, as suggested.

The second art project "Hop" which is an abstract colorful set of shapes made of duct tape on the sidewalk designed to invoke a hopscotch game started installation on May 31 on the walkway of Richmond Street near the purple allium flower beds and we had immediate and joyful participation by many people. The second design was installed on June 10 on the sidewalk near the fountain, and the plan is to at least one more similar design in another area of the park.

The third art project tentatively entitled "Off to Henderson Island" which will consist of hundreds of water bottles painted to look like fish and hung along the sides of the trellis is being constructed now. I am still collecting water bottles and will be asking for volunteers to help paint the bottles. Installation time will be based on when I have collected enough bottles, currently scheduled for the end of July. I hope to have at least part of the piece up until the end of July.

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey

I met in the park with Holly Masek, the Director, Public Realm, for Faneuil Hall Marketplace. She came during a Thursday morning horticulture time so had a chance to meet a number of our members. She is coordinating with the Greenway to share information about summer Saturday events. FOCCP's Saturday games will be publicized along with those for the Greenway and Faneuil Hall Marketplace

I have been in touch with Holly since the initial meeting and plan to meet with her again and hope that Robyn can join us to share information about her Art in the Park initiative.

Annual Speaker: For the third year in a row FOCCP is sponsoring a gardening speaker at the North End Branch Library. This year the Friends of the North End Library are co-sponsoring the event. FOCCP is providing the funds for the speaker. Terese O'Connell is coordinating FONEL's support. They are covering travel expenses, the publicity poster and also providing parking and lunch for the speaker.

Kerry Ann Mendez is an "award winning garden educator, author and design consultant". Her specialty is low maintenance gardening for 'time-pressed and maturing gardeners'. The plan as it stands right now is for Kerry to come to the park on Saturday, July 22, from 10:00 to 11:00 to visit the crescent garden and the circle area near the hotel. Since the expansive development for the circle project is on hold due to substructure weaknesses, Kerry's insights and suggestions for an immediate low maintenance plan for this area would be welcome.

After a break for an early lunch, Kerry will present at the library from 12:00 to 2:00.

Internet Communications: Kelsey Griggs

FEBRUARY 2017

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MAY 2017

Newsletter:

May NL:34%
Tot Lot: 36%
Tot Lot/Corrections:32%
Mayor Coffee: 35%

Facebook: 859 as of 9:30 am

Twitter: 277

Instagram: 190

Website:

May 2017: 277 (1,294)
May 2016: 1880

June 2017

Newsletter

June NL: 36%

Facebook: 877 Likes

Twitter: 283 Followers

Instagram: 218

Website: June 2017: 693; June 2016 2,609

Infrastructure Committee Report: Ford Cavallari - Absent - No Report

Park Ranger Report - Joanne Hayes-Rines

Park Rangers will be in the Park 40 hours a week. They began their work in the park in May. Cost: \$20,000. Funds come out of fundraising. Joanne is hoping the Parks Dept. will contribute funds.

Lawn Games: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Game company is from Salem. Games noon to 4 PM on Saturdays. The company sets up the games and attends the games. Cost: \$550. instead of \$750. Gave a discount. Games on west lawn and other side of trellis.

Croquet: Jack McCarthy. Wednesdays to end of August. 5:30-7:30.

One person showed up the first week. He will put up sign and use a sandwich board.

2017 Events:

July 1 Independence Day Celebration: Ann Babbitt

We're still in need of a few volunteers....information table, face painting line & help with set-up. We're going to have a short meeting immediately after tonight's meeting.....please stay & join us, in planning this fun event.

I've been in touch with Chief Osgood, Chief of Streets & Transportation in Boston regarding their plans for a permanent solution for the dangerous corner at Lewis & Commercial. I expect a report from Carla Tankle, the Department's Constituent Liaison. Ann updated her report. Flexible barriers will be placed on Wednesday at the no parking space at the end of Lewis Street .

Dance Party: Michele Brogan-Absent-No Report- DJ is available.

Tuesday, August 22 ... Sunset Cruise Report: Chairs Camille Hogan, Stephanie Walker and Kelsey Griggs.

Boston Harbor Cruises donating same boat as last year. Have spoken to caterer, Spinelli's (same as last year). Hope to have music upstairs and downstairs. 50-50 Raffle. Will bring flyers to next meeting.

Sunday Night Movies:

July 16 8:18 PM Moonstruck PG - 1 hr 42 min.

July 23 8:13 PM Despicable Me II - 1 hr 38 min.

July 30 8:05 PM Woman in Gold - PG 13 - 1 hr 49 min.

August 6 7:57 PM Florence Foster Jenkins - PG 13 - 1 hr. 51 min.

August 13 7:47 ET - 1 hr 55 min.

August 20 7:37 PM - Hair Sprayed - 1 hr. 57 min.

Sept. 3 7:14 PM - Moulin rouge - PG 13 - 2 hrs. 7 min.

Sept. 10 7:02 PM - Close Encounters of the Third Kind - 2 hrs. 17 min.

Columbus Day Fall Festival - Monday - Oct. 9

NO GALA 2017

Trellis Lighting - Nov. 20

Security Lighting (LED lights) \$10,000. Old security lights disabled.

STATUS REPORT: NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS!

1 barge guaranteed and it's only June!

FOCCP has joined with Boston Harbor Now and the Wharf District Council to bring back fireworks on the Harbor for New Year's Eve. All money raised goes directly to fireworks - administrative costs paid privately.

Plan: 2 fireworks barges

Cost: \$40,000 per barge

Status: Commitments totaling more than \$40,000 from NorthEndBoston.com, Marriott Long Wharf, Boston Harbor Hotel, Harborside Inn and Living Room. Donato Frattaroli working with other North End restaurateurs hoping to raise \$10 to \$15,000.

Plan to see fabulous fireworks show from 2 barges on the harbor December 31, 2017.

No New Business

May Minutes approved as presented.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:33 PM

Respectfully submitted: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

Mariners House

July 11, 2017 Meeting

Chairing Meeting: Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Meeting: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Distributed Minutes

Time:6:32 PM

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

Board Members Absent: Patricia Sabbey, Kelsey Griggs

Members Attending: 8

2 Guests- Margaret Farmer, candidate for City Council

- Artist, Colin McMullan

Committee Reports:

-Membership Report: Beverly Knight

Few changes. Same as May. Ann DeLuca has numbers.

-Treasurer's Report: Ann DeLuca

General Membership: We have approximately \$12,665 in general membership donations income year to date which is 63% of 2017 budget of \$20,000. Prior YTD was \$11,590 YTD.

Expenses: We have approximately \$19,400 in program related expenses YTD which is 26% of 2017 budget of \$75,000. Prior year was approximately \$15,900.

The increase this year is mainly due to not having a gala event in the Fall and instead having more events in the park such as Lawn games' expenses YTD \$3000, and Movies \$3800.

Horticulture Report: Robyn Reed

The crescent garden is the star of the park right now, everything is blooming and vibrant. The roses continue to give us some beautiful blooms, but we are dealing with black spot, but it seems to be under control but not yet completely gone.

The Parks Commissioner Chris Cook came to our garden on June 27, and learned about what we do and what our challenges are. He noticed some edges of bricks that need to be addressed for ADA reasons, noticed where some trees need to be pruned, and promised me stone dust for the path of the rose garden and black mulch for the bush roses. Meredith gave him a blue gardening shirt, and he seemed to really enjoy his time, even though, I almost didn't let him garden because he didn't wear closed toe shoes.

We always invite members and new gardeners to join us. We will train you and provide all the tools. Please see the website for the days and times and what to wear.

Park Art Report:

I continue to add poems to the "Poems in the Park" project - I estimate that I have provided about 200 poems.

"Hop" continues to make people smile and I heard it was well used on the day of the Independence Celebration, including by the Coast Guard, in uniform. I have removed

the first, square, design because the tape had degraded to a point that it needed to be removed. The triangle design is still up, and I will place one more grid in the next week or so.

The third art project tentatively entitled "Off to Henderson Island" which will consist of hundreds of water bottles painted to look like fish and hung along the sides of the trellis is being constructed now. I am still collecting water bottles and will be asking for volunteers to help paint the bottles. Residents of Spaulding Rehabilitation helped me last week and we had a great time – painting over 25 bottles. Final installation will be based on when I have collected enough bottles, currently scheduled for the end of July. I hope to start installing the piece early next week.

This week I hope to distribute and publish a general Call for Art and a specific Valentine's Day Call for Art which invites artists from all over to submit proposals for art in the park. All potential art pieces will be run by both the Art Committee and the FOCCP board, and will have to submit an application to the City and be approved by the City before it can be installed.

We do have two discussions about using our Park for art pieces – one person has an idea for a temporary labyrinth, and another is here tonight to run his proposal by you.

Fundraising Report: Patricia Sabbey - Absent

The garden visit and presentation at the North End Library by Kerry Mendez from Perennially Yours is coming up on Saturday, July 22. This is the third annual garden speaker sponsored by FOCCP as a thank you to the North End community for their ongoing support. This year FOCCP is partnering with the Friends of the North End Library to coordinate the day. Please take some posters to place around the neighborhood. I think all the plans for the day are in place, but if anyone is available to help that day, please let me know.

Internet Communications: Kelsey Griggs - Absent

Report read by Patricia Thiboutot

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Infrastructure Report: Ford Cavallari

1- the need to clarify the disposition of the sidewalk (brick or cement) on the Atlantic Avenue edge of the park;

2- a heads-up for an Infrastructure Committee meeting in late September (exact time and date TBD) and a call for Infrastructure Committee volunteers.

Harbor Cruise: Camille Hogan and Stephanie Walker. Kelsey Griggs Absent.

Boston Harbor Cruises: Date: August 22 at 6:30. Cost: \$40.00. Caterer: Spinelli's.

Flyers on table to be distributed to community.

1st email sent to Ladies Group. Kelsey sending out to all members.

50-50 Raffle. Gift certificates.

Meredith inputting PayPal-she is not sure what she should be doing.

Rita reporting ones by mail.

Chairs need responses.

Web Site live and can buy tickets. No tickets sold to date.

Playlist music- have to figure out speaker system. Loud upstairs. No sound downstairs.

July 1 - Independence Day Celebration: Ann Babbitt

Our Independence Day celebration was a great success. 4 Navy officers led the Parade and additional Navy personnel assisted with the lawn games for adults. The Park was filled to overflowing with Harborfest activities and our own activities for the children of the neighborhood.

Photo in Regional Review and Post Gazette.

Lawn games introduced for the first time. Sandwich board with poster.

Katie, one of the leaders of the North End Brownie Troop #72157

brought a Thank You poster for FOCCP. They planted flowers in the Crescent Garden and were so happy to use our supplies and also that we welcomed them to the Rose Garden. They also gave FOCCP a check for \$105, splitting the money left at year's end between the Park & the NE Library.

Ann will send thank you note to leader

2016 Events

Sunday Night Movies ... FLYERS TO DISTRIBUTE

July 16	8:18pm	Moonstruck PG - 1 hr 42 min.
July 23	8:13pm	Despicable Me II - 1 hr 38 min.
July 30	8:05pm	Woman in Gold - PG13 - 1 hr 49 min.
August 6	7:57pm	Florence Foster Jenkins - PG 13 - 1hr. 51 min
August 13	7:47pm	ET - 1 hr 55 min.
August 20	7:37pm	Hoosiers PG - 1 hr. 54 min.
August 27	7:26pm	Hair Spray - 1 hr 57 min

Sept. 3 7:14pm Moulin Rouge - PG13 - 2 hrs 7 min.
Sept 10 7:02pm Close Encounters of the Third Kind - 2 hrs 17 min

Columbus Day Fall Festival ... Monday, Oct. 9

NO GALA 2017

Trellis Lighting Monday, November 20

STATUS REPORT: NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS!

Report from Joanne re: meeting with Boston Harbor Now, which will file permit application with the city. A huge contribution to our efforts!

FROM LAST MONTH: NO CHANGE. FOCCP has joined with Boston Harbor Now and the Wharf District Council to bring back fireworks on the Harbor for New Year's Eve. All money raised goes directly to fireworks – administrative costs paid privately.

Plan: 2 fireworks barges

Cost: \$40,000 per barge

Status: Commitments totaling more than \$40,000 from NorthEndBoston.com, Marriott Long Wharf, Boston Harbor Hotel, Harborside Inn, and Living Room. Donato Frattaroli working with other North End restaurateurs hoping to raise \$10 to \$15,000. Plan to see fabulous fireworks show from 2 barges on the harbor December 31, 2017!

New Business:

-Artist Colin McMullan

Proposal to have a discussion the night of the Fall Festival with video. Set up projector under the trellis. Topic would be 2 teams: one in favor of Christopher Columbus, the other in favor of indigenous groups. Goal to bridge differences between people. He has used this format in Connecticut to discuss environmental issues.

Discussion ensued. The point being that maybe this could take place the Saturday before the holiday. Another point was made that perhaps this would not go over well with the Italians in the North End who are devoted to Christopher Columbus and whose families donated the money for his statue.. If his project is to go forward, he would have to approach the Parks Dept.

-Margaret Farmer spoke about her candidacy for City Council.

-Discussion: Joan spoke about a woman feeding large pieces of bread to the birds. Creating a mess.

Joan was told not to get involved in any dialogue with the woman and to speak to the Park Ranger.

Minutes accepted as presented.

Meeting adjourned: 8:09 PM

Respectfully submitted; Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park
Meeting August 8, 2017
Mariners House

Chairing Meeting: President, Joanne-Hayes Rines
Recording Meeting: Susanne Lavoie, Director at Large
July Minutes not distributed.
Meeting began at 6:30 PM

Board Members Attending: Ann Babbitt, Ford Cavallari, Ann DeLuca, Susanne Lavoie, Robyn Reed, Joanne-Hayes Rines, Patricia Sabbey, Rita Paliuca

Board Members Absent: Beverly Knight, Kelsey Griggs, Patricia Thiboutot,

Meeting was opened by Joanne Hayes Rines, FOCCP President

- All persons attending the meeting introduced themselves and gave a short explanation about their involvement with the Friends.
- Two new members were welcomed: Angela Dello Russo and Robin Woods.
- Joanne gave a short overview of the Friends for the benefit of the new members.

Committee Reports

Membership – Beverly Knight, Chair, absent, no report.

Treasurer – Ann Deluca, Chair,

- Revenue: We have approximately \$13,075 in general membership donations income – YTD. This is 65% of 2017 budget of \$20,000. Prior YTD was \$12,235.
- Expenses: We have approximately \$25,993 in program related expenses YTD. This is 35% of 2017 budget of \$75,100. Prior year was approximately \$17,966. The variance of \$800 is due to new items: Lawn Games \$4600 and Movies \$4000.

Horticulture – Robyn Reed, Chair

- The Rose Garden: Black spot is threatening the Hybrid Tea Roses. The leaves are falling off. Very concerning, as nothing seems to be working to halt the problem. The Horticultural Committee will try alternatives.
 - Rats are a problem in the Rose Garden. Continuing to work with the Parks Department. The Parks Dept. is setting out traps and checking them daily.
- The Crescent Garden: They are going to cut it back so that the flowers can be seen from different angles.

Fundraising – Patricia Sabbey, Chair

- Joe's American
 - Tom O'Brien, GM, has been transferred to the corporate offices in Orlando FL. He introduced us (thanks to Joanne) to the new GM Carol Spinoros. Joanne, Ann Babbitt, and I met with her and gave her a tour of the Park.
 - GM committed to continuing the \$5000 Gold Level Sponsorship from Joe's American.
- Barr Foundation issues an RFP for community proposals.
 - FOCCP will apply and will submit a request to participate on the process to be awarded a grant. There will be more information by next month's meeting
- Kerry Ann Mendez, a nationally known perennials expert, visited the Park, July 22.
 - She toured the Crescent Garden and was very impressed with the design and plant selection. She also made some suggestions for plantings at the circle area near the entrance to the wharf.
 - She then gave a PowerPoint presentation at the library.

Internet Communications – Kelsey Griggs – Absent. Joanne read report:

- Website: 3500 visits this year
- Facebook: 905 followers
- Twitter: 291
- Instagram: 248 followers

Infrastructure – Ford Cavallari

Responding to the request to get FOCCP work items and decorations in that are in the shed, off the floor and to hang on the walls or placed on shelves. Ford will meet with contractors to get estimates on putting on shelving in the two storage shed closets.

Art Curatorial – Robyn Reed

- Poetry Project: People are still taking the poems. Will continue this until the demand stops.
- Fish Project: Robyn thanked everyone for all the help. Ann Babbitt stated that the "Fish have captured people's imagination."
- Meredith Piscitelli suggested that at the project's end FOCCP donate some of the fish. We need to come up with ideas on what to do with them.
- The fish will stay up until the October Celebration. They will continue stringing them up along the trellis until then.

FOCCP Harbor Cruise – Camille Hogan, Stephanie Walker & Kelsey Griggs

Tuesday, August 22. The Rendevouz Boarding at dock across from the Chart House at 6:30 PM. Departs 7:00 PM.

Other Business

- Upcoming meeting with Chris Cook, Boston Parks Commissioner
 - Patricia Stated that we need plantings for the Oasis tree circle. The Parks Dept. needs to replace the soil. They also need to put in rate grates. These prevent the rates from getting at the roots We need to replace.
- Suggestion that Robyn work with Bev on a membership promotion that would have an event with FOCCP Horticultural Committee members in a North End store available to talk to customers about gardening.
- The Games are a big hit. People are playing, even in the rain. Games stop at 4 PM.
- Movie Night, also a hit. There are nine movies for \$5000. We need a sponsor.

No New Business

No Minutes were presented to approve.

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 PM

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

09/12/17 Meeting - Mariners House: 6:34PM

Chairing Meeting: Ann Babbitt in Joanne Hayes Rines Absence

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Present: Ann Babbitt, Ann DeLuca, Ford Cavallari, Patricia Sabbey, Kelsey Griggs, Rita Pagliuca, Beverly Knight, Patricia Thiboutot

Board Members Absent: Joanne Hayes-Rines, Robyn Reed, Susanne Lavoie

Members Present: 7

Committee Reports:

Membership: Beverly Knight and Gail Hudak

-3 more members from social. Two are new. One lives in Cincinnati; her donation was through PayPal. The other is local and has been in our database since 11/20/15. This is the first time she has donated buying a cruise ticket and also paying for a membership on 8/13/17. Beverly will be working with Rita on electronic membership. Beverly will be planning the next membership social.

Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Revenue:

Total Revenue: YTD actual is \$28,600 which is 29% of the 2017 Budget of \$98,000.

Prior YTD was \$26,160. This includes \$7,700 from the Sunset Cruise and \$7,500 from the NYE Fireworks donations.

General Membership: YTD actual is \$13,300 which is 67% of 2017 budget of \$20,000.

Prior YTD was \$12,431 YTD.

Expenses:

Program Related Expenses: YTD \$26,400 which is 35% of 2017 budget of \$75,100.

Prior year was approximately \$22,500. YoY variance of \$3,900 is due to Lawn Games \$5,000 and Movies \$4,000 less the birthday party \$4,000.

Horticulture: Robyn Reed-Absent-Patricia Thiboutot Read Report

We are winding down our work in the garden, although the roses are still blooming and the crescent garden is moving through its fall colors. The rats are still a huge problem, and Terese is suggesting the solution of removing all the Fairy Roses on the sides of the rose garden, inside the gates, in order to put in new dirt, put in grating to stop the rats from eating away at the roots of the roses, and rearrange the irrigation that has been moved around by the rat tunnels. Robyn will speak with Anthony Hennessy at the Parks Dept. to discuss this.

We will continue to meet on Wednesdays until the end of September, and on Sundays and Thursdays until the end of October.

Park Art Report:

The final lines of fish went up under the trellis with the help of a number of volunteers, so now we have fish on two entire trellis sections. The piece continues to get the attention of the public and visitors to the park seem to be very appreciative of the work. The piece will be up until Columbus Day. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the volunteers who have been helping make this installation a success.

I have switched my focus to the Valentine's Day event and art work – if anyone has suggestions, please contact me.

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey

-Applying to the Barr Foundation for a grant of \$50,000.

Focus: Robyn's art, handicap access, programing, call for artists.

Internet Communications: Kelsey Griggs

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 August NL: 35%
 New to Cruise Reminder: 57%
 Cruise to All Reminder: 33%
 Friday Before: 32%
Monday Before: 29%
Website:
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 August 2016: 3,431

September 2017
Newsletter:
 September NL: 43%

Facebook: 941

Twitter: 301

Instagram: 255

Website:

September 2017: 1,656

September 2016: 2,005

-- Infrastructure - Ford Cavallari - Ford contacted Peter Lewis for a quote to install wreath hangers mounted high in the "trellis" shed (the bathroom), floor to door-high shelves next to the door as well as on the wall next to the commode, a large shelf on the back (inside) wall of both sheds. The goal is to move larger stored boxes and other items off the floor. Peter came to CCP to assess the shed's structure and verified that many of the walls are built on metal studs. Therefore, to hold the weight, the hangers and shelves will have to be carefully mounted on a frame that Peter will create. Quote: \$3500.

The board unanimously approved this expenditure but according to FOCCP bylaws, any expenditure in excess of \$1,000 requires approval by the membership.

Membership voted to Approve \$3,500 pending Parks Dept. approval for the project.

Build out late September and October.

-Harbor Cruise: Kelsy Griggs - No Report

Ann DeLuca added that cost for 2017 was \$7,700; 2016 was \$9,800. In-kind donation was lower this year. 2017 Expenses: \$8,300; 2016 Expense: \$6,000.

Profit 2016: \$1,700. 10 less tickets sold 2017 so catering cost was lower.

Ann Babbitt said a lot of young people - not close to capacity. Need to figure out how to attract more people. A dance party was suggested. Maybe hire an event person.

Stephanie's mother's friend who is an event planner was on the cruise.

-Report on meeting with Commissioner Chris Cook—8-30

Joanne and Ann B met with Chris Cook & Dennis Roache, our Director of Administration and Finance.

on 8-30.—Topics discussed.

-floodlight on north trellis shining on crescent garden to deter "sleepers"—It's on Dino, the electrician's list. Chris will remind him. Joanne will continue to remind Chris to remind Dino. Met Steve Mirabella in the Park. He will install white LED lights under the horizontal beam as security lights in the next 2 weeks. He'll shut off the white lights so that when the Mayor pulls the switch in November, it will be a totally different look. Also, he'll repair the white lights that are out and any blue lights that are out.

Again, he's donating everything. "I've had a great year" he says.

-new door knob on left hand storage closet in shed—Will do, Joanne will continue to remind him.

-Status of MOU for park rangers? Since the Park's Dept never signed the 2017 Memorandum of Understanding. Re. FOCCP paying the City \$20,000 for this summer season. (40 hours a week for park ranger in the park,) the money has not been sent. It was decided the Parks Dept. had sufficient funds to pay the rangers this year and while FOCCP does have sufficient funds to pay for the rangers this year and while Columbus

Park did receive coverage this year, FOCCP will not have to pay the \$20,000. The plan for 2018 will be to hire more full-time rangers (it's been hard to find enough people who want part time work. Therefore, we will pay the city \$20,000 in 2018 for 40 hr per week coverage in the park. A MOU for 2018 has been prepared. Ann Babbitt added community appreciative we have rangers.

-Status of MOU for benches? Joanne counted 17 missing benches along the harborwalk. Some of the benches have been moved and placed under the trellis! Chris is pushing on getting drainage issues repaired so new benches can be installed. There really are benches in storage earmarked for Columbus Park.

-We've been offered 4 large planters from 200 State St to use as a test to see if they will deter the street performers. Group is organized out of NYC. Chris OK'd getting them. Audrey saw the planters today.

State Street offices had difficulty working because of the noise.

-Chris will have a tree planted near the statue where the oak died a couple of years ago. He'll have the pillar at the statue repaired. Chris doesn't think his people made the most recent repair. It didn't last.

-Oasis Drought-resistant plantings. We asked, in late winter after the last snow, that the old dirt at the circle be removed and new dirt installed, with a rat grate, so we can have drought-resistant plants that we will pay to have planted.

EVENTS in the Park

Sept. 3 7:14pm Moulin Rouge - PG13 - 2 hrs 7 min—Cancelled, resch 9-17.

Sept 10 7:02pm Close Encounters of the Third Kind - 2 hrs 17 min

Columbus Day Fall Festival ... Monday, Oct. 9 – Calling all volunteers!! Sign-up sheet being circulated tonight.

NO GALA 2017

Trellis Lighting Monday, November 20

STATUS REPORT: Fireworks on the Harbor

Report from Joanne

-Making progress on raising money for the New Year's Eve fireworks,. There will be 2 barges.

July Minutes Approved

August Minutes Approved

Meeting Adjourned: 7:18 PM

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

October 10, 2017 Meeting

Chaired by Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

Distribute September Minutes

Meeting began at: 6:36 PM

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

Board Members Absent: Ford Cavallari, Beverly Knight, Rita Pagliuca

Members Attending: 7

Joanne welcomed new board member - Membership Committee

Co-Chair, MaryGaye Grizwin

-Committee Reports:

-Membership: MaryGaye Grizwin reported 3 new members (2 from renewal, 1 new) Beverly, Rita, Gail and MaryGaye will be going over database and will include Meredith. MaryGaye also reported for Beverly who was absent that Beverly is going to contact Kelsey to spotlight a member each month in newsletter. They will also be reaching out to businesses and families to become members telling them there will not be a Gala this year. Will thank them for their previous support. Carol Binder takes care of Instagram.

-Treasurer's report-Ann DeLuca

Revenue:

Total Revenue: YTD actual is \$28,770. Without the NYE Fireworks donations of \$7,500 revenue is \$21,270, which is 22% of the 2017 Budget of \$98,000. Prior YTD was \$41,359. Variance to prior year of \$20,089 is from \$10K of prior year Gala donations and ticket sales and \$10K of Sponsorship and business memberships.

General Membership: YTD actual is \$13,475 which is 67% of 2017 budget of \$20,000. Prior YTD was \$12,831 YTD.

Expenses:

Program Related Expenses: YTD \$26,944 which is 36% of 2017 budget of \$75,100. Prior year was approximately \$25,950.

-Horticulture: Robyn Reed

We only have three Sunday gardening days left for the year – our last day in the garden will be October 29. We have asked the City to remove all the Fairy Roses on the sides of the rose garden, inside the gates, in order to put in new dirt, put in grating to stop the rats from eating away at the roots of the roses, and rearrange the irrigation that has been moved around by the rat tunnels. They will do that when they mulch the beds, after Thanksgiving. In the spring we will have Schumacher replace the Fairy Roses with Knockout roses.

Park Art Report: Robyn Reed

The fish are down! Art focus in the park is now on Valentine's Day 2018 event and art work – if anyone has suggestions, please contact me. Fish will be stored in shed. Next summer they will hang at City Hall as the Fish were the only one exhibit that Robyn submitted for the Ecological Exhibit that was accepted.

New Planters:

Joanne reported that planters have been installed by stairs near Tia's to help deter street performers. State St. contacted Joanne as they could not work due to all the noise coming from the street performers. City approved the planters.

-Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey

Updating fundraising letter to send out to businesses and condo associations. Carmella CL Properties has already sent in \$5,000, Joe's American Bar also sent \$5,000.

-Internet Communications -Kelsey Griggs

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Facebook: 941
Twitter: 301
Instagram: 255
Website:
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September 2016: 2,005
October 2017
Newsletter:
October NL: 37%
Fall Festival Cancelled: 41%
Facebook: 963 +22
Twitter: 301 +0
Instagram: 259 +4
Website:
October 2017: 859
October 2016: 2,003

-Fall Festival - Ann Babbitt

We were so disappointed with the weather gods! For the first time in 8 years it was necessary to cancel one of our events due to inclement weather. We waited until the last minute, watching the weather station constantly and finally made our decision as of 5:00 pm Monday. All of our vendors & entertainers were very understanding. The good news is.....we're ready for next year's Fall Festival. The pumpkins have been ordered, the mini pumpkins are on order and the craft & face painting supplies are packed away and ready for October, 2018. Thanks to all of our volunteers who were willing to help and on standby until the last minute.

-Spray Fountain Repair: - Joanne Hayes-Rines

The Parks Dept. is getting bids on repairing the spray fountain. Work will be done this fall. After, new benches which are in storage will be placed in the park next spring. 17 benches missing from original sites. Whoever moved them, placed them elsewhere in the park on the west side.

-Bench and Tree Program update - Joanne Hayes-Rines

After several years, the City of Boston signed an agreement with FOCCP on October 6, 2017. The basics of the program are that:

- *FOCCP will take over the responsibility of marketing and promoting the tree and bench program for Columbus Park. Joanne and MaryGaye will work on researching benches.

- *Each bench plaque will sell for \$5,000 for a term of 12 years. The plaque can renewed after 12 years with a payment of \$5,000.

FOCCP will retain \$2,000 for each plaque sold. \$3,000 will go to the Parks Dept.'s nonprofit Fund for Parks and Recreation and be "designated specifically for maintenance issues at CCP".

- *New benches are coming.

Applications will be distributed. Ideas for Plaques on application. FOCCP may accept or reject sayings on plaques. Money from plaques will offset \$15,000 made at Gala, cruise or any other events in the park.

-Events

NO GALA 2017

-Trellis Lighting - Monday, November 20

Status Report: New Year's Eve Fireworks! - Joanne Hayes-Rines

Joanne and Susanne met with Boston Harbor Now who did all the permit work. They met with Permitting Board who approved Fireworks. Same for Labor Day - 2 barges.

*Permit Approved

*Donors Committed to date: \$60,000:

NorthEndBoston.com

Taste of the North End

Marriott Long Wharf Hotel

Boston Harbor Hotel

Joe's American Bar

Harborside Inn

Seaport Hotel

Hyatt Hotel at the Airport

Living Room

State Street Provisions

Pier 6 ad Real House East Boston

Plan to see fabulous fireworks show from 2 barges on the harbor December 31, 2017

Discussion:

-Wisteria being cut back. Steve Mirabella will tighten up the lines etc.

No labor charge - he had a good year! Still planning on security lights to add to white lights. One per section. Cupids and hearts for Valentine's Day. Maybe green lights for St. Patrick's Day.

-Small trash cans will replace oil barrels.

-Joan Murphy suggested more No Smoking signs and No Skate Board Sign. She reported that patches of silver spray paint on the grass.

September Minutes accepted as presented with one minor correction.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot Clerk

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park

11/14/17 Meeting 6:40 PM

Mariners House

Meeting chaired by Joanne Hayes-Rines

Recording Minutes: Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk

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

Board Members Absent: Ford Cavallarii, Kelsey Griggs, Rita Pagliuca, Beverly Knight
Member Attending: 5; 2 guests who would like to join FOCCP.

Beverly Knight, MaryGaye Grizwin

Development of CoChair role

Bev and MG will work together to get MG up to speed on the Membership drive and other initiatives. Over time, we'll figure out how to best divide specific responsibilities. Both Chairs will attend FOCCP Board meetings; next meeting January 8; MG/Bev will develop an update on our plans to discuss with fellow Board members.

At least one Chair needs to attend General Membership meetings

FOCCP database

Responsibility for the database resides with the Membership Chair.

A new software application, Donor Snap, was implemented in 2017.

Due to differences in the old and new software, membership statistics and trends pre- and post-transition are not an "apples to apples" comparison.

Data entry, reporting, and management of the software has been heavily supported by Gail, Rita, and Meredith.

MG has a strong interest in using data to inform planning decisions. She will get up to speed on DonorSnap software and begin to analyze existing membership data.

Membership presence/involvement at FOCCP park events

There is an opportunity to provide more support to Event Chairs by defining Information Table components, ensuring materials are available as needed, and offering training guidelines to volunteers.

While Park events are not usually structured to solicit new membership enrollments, they present a great opportunity to increase awareness of FOCCP and develop interest in becoming a member.

Setting up Information Tables have typically been organized by each Event Chair with informal standards for setup, volunteer protocol, and what should be displayed.

Membership materials

There is an opportunity to review and develop specific materials that could be used on a widespread basis for 1) general FOCCP membership awareness and 2) targeted "call to action" purposes.

Existing individual and business brochures were developed by Meghan and Joanne. They are professional looking and, therefore, a bit costly to use on a routine basis.

Membership involvement/presence in monthly newsletter

There is an opportunity to routinely develop Membership-related content for publication in the monthly FOCCP newsletter.

Based on established goals/objectives and the FOCCP activity cycles, a key message strategy could be developed for the entire year; each month a short blurb could be written to highlight Membership benefits, events, accomplishments, goals, etc.

Membership drive

Planning for the 2018 Membership Drive will begin after the holidays.

Membership Social is typically held in April at Tia's.

Membership campaign letters go out to those included in our database well in advance of the social.

Process steps:

Develop content-review-edit

Send to designer-review-edit

Produce letter

Review database integrity

Export name/address list to Excel

Conduct manual review for personal insight on any changes or inaccuracies

Make adjustments as needed

Send to Murdoch Mailing for geocoding

Mail

Additional ideas for 2018

Small business membership campaign

Development of ad hoc "Membership Committee" to contribute ideas and support for specific projects.

Treasurer: Ann DeLuca

Revenue:

Total Revenue: YTD actual is \$47,345. Without the NYE Fireworks donations of \$21,000 revenue is \$26,345, which is 27% of the 2017 Budget of \$98,000. Prior YTD was \$114,050 but included \$47,318 in Gala Revenue. Prior YTD without Gala Revenue was \$66,732. Compared to this year's current revenue of \$26,345 the variance to prior year of \$40,387 less is mainly due to a variance YTD of \$31,000 less in Sponsorship revenue year over year.

General Membership: YTD actual is \$13,550 which is 68% of 2017 budget of \$20,000. Prior YTD was \$14,900 YTD.

Expenses:

Program Related Expenses: YTD \$31,427 which is 42% of 2017 budget of \$75,100.

Prior year was approximately \$29,280. Although relatively little variance we did have higher expenses in 2017 with the Lawn Games and Movies of \$9K but we didn't have last year's Birthday party expense of \$5K or Arts Festival and Yoga of \$3K

Horticulture Report: Robyn Reed

Gardening is done for the year. The Horticulture volunteers planted 300 daffodil bulbs in the Crescent Garden at the end of October, and we stopped maintenance of the roses. Mulch will be put down on the roses by the City before the end of the year. The volunteers will meet in the Spring to plan for the 2018 season.

Park Art Report:

The fish have been moved to City Hall, in the City Council Library, and will be there until August, when they get moved to the Atrium of City Hall as part of Greenfest. Art focus in the park is now on Valentine's Day 2018 event and art work. A Call for Art has been sent out, and if anyone has suggestions, please contact me.

Fundraising: Patricia Sabbey

Letters have been sent from Joanne and me to all of our sponsors. I also sent request letters and brochures to people at each condo to give to their condo boards. I have a contact name for Wynn Boston Harbor and have sent a letter requesting a sponsorship.

Internet Communications: Kelsey Griggs - Absent

Report read by Patricia Thiboutot

November 2017

Newsletter:

November NL: 36%

Facebook: 973

Twitter: 304 + 3

Instagram: 263 +4

Website:

November 2017: 566

November 2016: 1,549

Art Curator: Robyn Reed

Fish are now in hall next to City Council Chamber. They will be installed in atrium in August. Michelle Wu, Council President, suggested they be hung now by the Chamber. There is signage explaining the fish.

Infrastructure: Ford Cavallari - Absent

Report read by Robyn Reed

My main reporting item is the successful installation of the shelves in both FOCCP sheds. All wreaths and garlands are now safely overhead in the small shed, which used to be totally inaccessible 10 months of the year because of the piled wreaths. And the horticulture shed is much more "sane" since less-often used items can be stored in the over 100 square feet of new shelf space.

The lockset replacement for the small shed is still in-process, with the needed parts on order. I'll let folks know when the parts are in and the lockset installation will happen.

Spray fountain repair – Joanne Hayes-Rines

The Parks Dept is getting bids on repairing the spray fountain. Work will be done this fall. After that, new benches, which are in storage, will be placed in the park in the spring!

NFL

The City of Boston sent FOCCP a check in the amount of \$2360.32, which was the amount of a check sent to the City by the NFL, which used Columbus Park for its kick off event in September. These unexpected funds are deeply appreciated.

Bench and Tree Program update – Joanne Hayes-Rines

After several years, the City of Boston signed an agreement with the FOCCP on October 6, 2017. The basics of the program are that:
FOCCP will take over the responsibility of marketing and promoting the tree and bench program for Columbus Park

Each bench plaque will sell for \$5,000 for a term of 12 years.

FOCCP will retain \$2,000 for each plaque sold; \$3,000 will go to the Parks Dept's nonprofit Fund for Parks and Recreation and be "designated specifically for maintenance issues at CCP."

Each oak tree plaque will sell for \$10,000 for a term of 12 years.

FOCCP will retain \$7,000 for each tree plaque sold; \$3,000 will go to the Parks Dept's nonprofit Fund for Parks and Recreation and be "designated specifically for maintenance issues at CCP."

New benches are coming.

Distribute application.

Trellis Lighting Monday, November 20 – 5:00pm

Marriott will donate hot chocolate and cookies. Joe's donating clam chowder. Mayor is coming to throw the switch.

Lydia Edwards, new elected City Councilor was invited to the festivities.

STATUS REPORT: NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS!

Report from Joanne

Permit approved!

Donors committed to date:\$72,000:

NorthEndBoston.com

Taste of the North End

Marriott Long Wharf Hotel

Boston Harbor Hotel

Joe's American Bar & Grill

Convention Center

Entertainment Cruises

Harborside Inn

Seaport Hotel

Hyatt Hotel at the Airport

The Living Room

State Street Provisions

Reelhouse

RLA Insurance

Sail Loft

Plan to see fabulous fireworks show from 2 barges on the harbor December 31, 2017!
CP.

Discussion: Movies are popular. Attract many people from all over the states and even the world!

Tot Lot - Moms' group attend but would like to see them join FOCCP.

Playground Committee: Joanne Spitz offered to chair this new committee.

October Minutes Accepted as presented.

Meeting adjourned: 7:43 PM

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Thiboutot, Clerk