

Friends of Marshall Square Park
Meeting Minutes
9/19/13

Attending - Jeff Beitel, Jim Salvas, Michael Civita, Betsey Woodrow, Gordon Woodrow, Linda Scott, Bill Scott, Jean Stratton, Lane Randall

Review of Minutes – Jeff reviewed minutes of 5/23 meeting.

Treasurer's Report – \$20,000 now in account, not including checks received for Garden Party. Have had expenses for fountain cleanup, musician.

Announcements

Summer Series Recap – We made about \$4,100 on the 2013 concerts. FMSP receives 50% of this income. FMSP also received about \$900 in donations and water bottle sales.

Old Business

Fountain Restoration Project – We now have architectural plans for the fountain area, which Jeff shared. These must now be presented to Borough for approval. The plans call for restoration of hardscaping and reconfiguration of the pathways entering the area. Will complete the existing pattern of bricks on the West side, providing space for two benches, plus the bench on the South side. We will create an entry pad area, with bollards on the street side. We may have to create an underground vault for mechanicals. FMSP plans to cover all costs except for electricity.

Jeff made a motion that we go to Borough for approval of these plans. Seconded by Michael. Motion carried unanimously.

Franklin & Biddle Streets Entrance Improvements – Parks & Recreation was not able to get quotes on these improvements. This has been postponed until 2014, though funds are earmarked for it. Bill suggested keeping pressure on Borough to get this done. Gordon and Michael have contractors they can recommend.

Fundraising Events Committee – The planned bike race was cancelled. This will now take place in 2014 to bring in additional revenue. We are also looking forward to revenue from upcoming Garden Party. WCFF will help increase our enrollment. For the Garden Party, we lock in the caterer guarantee at 85 attendees. Mike will add a 50/50 raffle and water bottle sales to Garden Party.

Membership Committee – Jeff met with Eric about postcard design for member recruitment. Bill thinks we need to figure out dues and recruit. Linda doesn't think we need to prorate fees. All memberships run from January.

Jim suggested doing the solicitation during the holiday season, using a letter and reply envelope.

Jeff motioned that we direct the webmaster to enable online donations. Motion carried.

Lafayette Street Stairway Railing Replacement – Jason says this project is on hold.

Trash Receptacle Replacement – Jason reported on the Public Works meeting about this. Borough would pay for four receptacles, two from PW and two from Parks & Rec but we will only get two this year. FMSP has earmarked \$4,000 for this, but Jason suggests holding off until we get a firm commitment from Borough. Cost per can has increased because Borough wants dual-function cans.

Gordon said we should not give them a check until they "show their cans." Jeff suggested matching the two from the Borough now with two from us. Jeff motioned that we pay for two this year with Borough paying for two. Seconded by Gordon. Passed unanimously.

New Business

Fall Garden /Oktoberfest Party – 67 people have now reserved. Betsey thinks we will have 85 attendees. Tablecloths are being donated. We need volunteers for this weekend to pick up tables and chairs. Jeff will send an email. Food and music are all set.

Members' Comments/Concerns – Bill took down an interesting spider web in the gazebo.

Next Meeting – October 17, 2013, 7PM.