

FRIENDS OF MARSHALL SQUARE PARK  
MINUTES OF MEETING ON APRIL 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Jeff Beitel. In attendance were Eric Miller, Heather Gallo, Michael Civita, Holly Brown, Phil LaRue, Jim Salvas, Lane Randall, Linda Scott, Jennifer Seaver, and Veronica Balassone.

--MINUTES of the March meeting were approved and accepted into the record.

--Linda Scott reviewed the TREASURER'S REPORT. On the Balance Sheet, fountain funds in checking totaled \$17,509. The remaining balance in checking of \$40,321 is not necessarily earmarked for the fountain. Current liabilities totaled \$14,805. The accounts receivable total of \$21,815 included about \$15,000 due from Friends of West Chester Parks and Recreation.

The Receipts and Disbursements statement compared current year-to-date to prior year. In almost all revenue categories revenue exceeded last year's numbers. Expenses did as well, but overall net income still exceeds last year's at this time.

The Revenue by Item Summary detailed the percentage each item contributes to FMSP revenue. The main sources of revenue are Fountain Coping Stones and Memorial Benches. The Gogetfunding and paypal revenues were not net of related fees. Linda noted that Donations-in-Kind were shown as a negative number to offset Progressive Dinner hosts' free membership and dinner pass-thru costs.

--ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, TREASURER AND VICE-PRESIDENT took place with only one nominee slated for each office. Jeff Beitel was unanimously elected as President, Linda Scott unanimously elected as Treasurer, and Jim Salvas unanimously elected as Vice-President.

--Jeff reported that a sponsorship for the 8<sup>th</sup> MEMORIAL BENCH of the current order was received and the benches are in production. Balances are due yet for three of those benches. Jennifer Seaver requested that gravel or mulch be spread under the benches to prevent those areas from getting muddy.

--Jeff reported that the carpenter has completed the inside work for the SWISS COTTAGE ROOF REPAIR. The Borough has Jeff's drawings for the roof and will pay for the wood shingles. FMSP will prepare the roof sheathing repair/reinforcement.

--PARK SPRING CLEAN-UP is slated for Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 a.m. This year there will be mulch to spread requiring volunteers to provide wheelbarrows and shovels if possible. A number of parents with young children have offered to assist with raking and picking up sticks.

--The PINTS FOR THE PARK event at Sprout is scheduled for Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m. At this time there are 23 definite "yes" and 74 "maybe" responses. Menus have been set up and music will be provided by singer/songwriter/performer Paul Wilkenson. Attendees may join Sprout for \$5 at the door. FMSP is paying for the food at \$10 per person. Cash Bar will serve \$7 drink specials. Phil LaRue wants to cap our costs at \$500. There will be a table at the door with FMSP membership brochures and FMSP bags with our logo will be given to anyone becoming an FMSP member that evening.

--Michael Civita reported on the MUSIC AT MARSHALL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES slated for June 16<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup> and August 18<sup>th</sup> (rain dates are always the following Thursday). Kit Anstey is again the major sponsor, however he has indicated this may be the last year. Linda suggested perhaps approaching Eli Kahn for next year. The other sponsors are MacElree Harvey, Sunset Hill Jewelers (for the face painting at all three concerts), DLHowell and Stillman Volvo. The ad has been placed in the Parks and Recreation Summer Guide. Volunteers are urgently needed to work on the potluck setup and distribution of flyers in the neighborhood. Holly suggested emails be sent out right away to solicit volunteers for both tasks.

--Phil LaRue reported that the West Chester Hiking Club will host an Urban Walk which will start at MSP on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Jeff will give a brief talk on MSP history and FMSP.

--Holly Brown reported for the EVENTS COMMITTEE. The Fall Party is scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> at Christina and Eric Wilcomes' home. Members are working on the catering at this time.

--Eric Miller reported on the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. The Pints for the Park event at Sprout is aimed at a new demographic and they're hopeful for its success at bringing new members to FMSP. Also they plan on talking up FMSP membership at the Urban Walk event. They are currently working on a draft for a new informational trifold for membership solicitation.

--Jeff reported on the FOUNTAIN RESTORATION project. The black tile is installed and they are setting the coping stones. It is yet to be determined when the pebble tech material will be installed to finish the 18 inch deep basin. The fence is fabricated and ready to be painted. Bids to finish the brickwork surrounding the fountain total about \$60,000. Although verbal commitments have been made, some contracts are not yet written as we are waiting to see if any grant money will come through. The grant funds are there in the state budget but have not yet been awarded and they can only be used for unpaid bills. Some discussion took place as to whether leftover grant money could be applied to the new playground costs.

--Heather Gallo reported on the PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE. They have chosen a design that is workable for the budget. The design proposed by Gordon Woodrow was put aside as the committee was very concerned about the MSP playground becoming a destination park, and also the length of time such a design would require for fruition.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Balassone