

FRIENDS OF MARSHALL SQUARE PARK

Minutes of Meeting on February 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Jeff Beitel. In attendance were Linda Scott, Lane Randall, Pat Loew, Anne Walters, Betsy Woodrow, Chantale Fieldhouse and Veronica Balassone.

--Minutes of the last meeting were approved as written and entered into the record.

--Linda Scott gave the Treasurer's Report. On the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) she noted that the balance in the checking account is \$26,999. This includes all receipts from our recent Progressive Dinner event received through Paypal. Accounts Receivable of \$4,045 include credits from prepaid memberships and \$4,415 for reimbursement due from the Chester County Community Fund for 2018 fountain maintenance costs. There are no outstanding Accounts Payable at this time. On the Statement of Activities (Profit and Loss) total income exceeded last year at this time by \$600, \$8915 to \$8315. Membership dues are about \$500 less than last year at \$2390 and have not yet been adjusted to reflect the new membership year which begins July 1st. Progressive Dinner revenue exceeded last year by about \$600 at \$4655. But with the reported and estimated expenses the event netted only \$130 more than last year at \$4105. Linda noted that \$1500 in Hardscape expense is the amount paid to install three corner "Marshall Square Park" marker stones in the sidewalk around the park. In future, Linda will provide a written summary of her report to enable a better understanding by meeting attendees and assist the Recording Secretary in notetaking.

--Spring Park Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th. Eric Miller and Dick Sabo are leading the effort this year. Anne Walters and Jeff Beitel will determine the type and quantity of mulch to be spread that day. It will be necessary to rent or borrow wheelbarrows for the day.

--Jeff reported on designs for additional playground equipment for under-5 children as well as landscape design in the adjacent area. Chantale Fieldhouse and Jeff met with Paul Grim who had designed the newly installed playground for older children. Jeff has produced a concept plan incorporating the new equipment and a new swing set. The price for this addition to the park would be \$43,344. That estimate includes the equipment, installation and curbing, but not grading or mulch. The Borough is supportive of the idea but will not be budgeting any funds for it. FMSP would like to explore all options to make the plans a reality.

--The MSP Tree Management Plan, a five-year plan, is not yet complete.

--The Events Committee was pleased with the Progressive Dinner event and is grateful to Lee Miller for leading the committee's efforts. It netted \$4105. 77 people attended, including the hosts. It was noted that next year attendees will either have to remove their boots, bring shoes or wear booties, as some hosts' homes had soiled carpets and rugs following the gathering.

--The Membership Committee is seriously understaffed as only Rick Ammons is a member at this time. Jeff is anxious to develop a welcome package for newcomers into the neighborhood. Chantale is willing to assist in this effort.

--Jeff and Anne reported for the Fountain Restoration Committee. It is hoped the fountain will be re-opened in mid-April. Paragon Pools, the Borough's Public Works Department, Battavio Plumbing and Flowers and More will all be involved in the process. Flowers and More will need to schedule the landscape clean-up before the pool company opens the fountain and then Public Works and Battavio Plumbing will get the water supply turned back on for Paragon Pools.

--Jeff reported on the Summer Concerts Committee. The bands have been signed up for the three concerts. This year the committee would like to have a written agreement which specifies that the only vehicles permitted to drive and park at the gazebo are those needed for band set-up. Sponsorship levels have changed this year as the \$1000 individual concert level has been eliminated. There will be a primary sponsorship at \$2500, co-sponsorships at \$500, face painting and picnic sponsorships. Chantale will be responsible for the picnic again. Two people will be needed for grilling and they will be hired not volunteer positions. Linda believes we will need Event insurance for the concerts. Banner installation will be made streamlined when the work for a banner pole system is completed by Angelo's Ironworks.

--Nomination of officers and board members will take place at the March meeting. An announcement to that effect will be made on the website. By-laws require no more than 8 members on the board, including the 5 officers. Terms are 3 years in length, except initially. 1/3 of the board members will serve 1 year, 1/3 will serve 2 years, and 1/3 will serve 3 years on our new board. At this time officers are Jeff Beitel, President; Jim Salvas, Vice-President; Linda Scott, Treasurer; Lane Randall, Communications Secretary; Veronica Balassone, Recording Secretary.

--The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Balassone, Recording Secretary