The meeting was called to order by Jeff Beitel at 7:04 p.m. In attendance were Jim Salvas, Linda Scott, Veronica Balassone, Eric Miller, Rick Ammons, Pat Loew, Glen Sweet, Anne Walters and Chantale Fieldhouse.

--Minutes of the last meeting were accepted after incorporating a clarification requested by Eric Miller. “Eric reported that he expected 5 to 10 FMSP members to attend” the spring park clean-up. Also the minutes were corrected to remove Eric’s name as a member of the Membership Committee, and also to indicate his plan “to check with the places that rent homes to see if they need more brochures.”

--The Treasurer’s Report was given by Linda Scott. The checking account balance is $39,201. All payables are paid. Music at Marshall sponsorships received to date total $5,200. Additional expenses recorded were for signs, rakes and wheelbarrow rental for the annual park cleanup day.

Glen Sweet filed an extension to have a little more time to file the Federal Information Return Form 990. In addition, Glen is working on our registration with the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations (BCO) and on an application for the state sales tax exemption. Membership data between Wild Apricot and Quickbooks is being reconciled and insurance proposals are being reviewed for FMSP.

--Eric Miller reported on the annual Spring Park Clean-up. He was very satisfied with the results and was grateful for the Rotary Club’s volunteers’ assistance and has sent them a thank you letter. He would have liked to have seen more participation by FMSP members. There was concern that the mulching around some of the trees was not done properly as it was piled too high around the base of the trees and will need to be adjusted.

--Not much progress has been made with regard to the toddler playground and surrounding playground landscaping proposals in terms of charitable funding to get the projects off the ground. The Borough will not be offering any funds for additions to the playground.

--Jeff is hoping to speed up MSP Tree Management requirements such as pruning and getting soil samples. Recently new residents in the neighborhood have expressed an interest in doing a project with the tree labels in the park.

--Signage for the tree sculpture has been installed. It is suggested that the ring of mulch around the base be expanded. Discussion took place about applying a termite treatment to the root system. The Borough should be approached for permission to inject the treatment.

A sign is going to be ordered that will forbid swimming or wading in the fountain to avoid liability issues.

Chantale Fieldhouse added that it is now official that smoking is not allowed in public spaces which includes all Borough parks. It was mentioned that perhaps a No Smoking sign should be put in the gazebo.

--Jeff affirmed that Marshall Square Park hosts a state Champion Tree. The Blue Ash noticed and nominated for the honor by arborist Scott Wade is indeed a champion Big Tree of Pennsylvania as determined by its height, breadth of crown and diameter at breast height (DBH). It is one of only four ashes to be included in the category in the state.
--Linda Scott reported on the Events Committee. This year’s Fall Party will again be a block party on Lafayette Street on the last Saturday in September. We would like to use the same caterer but plan on increasing the amount of the food ordered as there was not enough last year. The committee is already working on trying to secure houses for next year’s Progressive Dinner. The next meeting is scheduled for June.

--Rick Ammons reported on the Membership Committee activities. They have developed a new brochure which was reviewed by those present. Rick would like to have the updated brochure printed and available for distribution door-to-door and also at the first summer concert in June. It was agreed that funds will be available to print 1000 brochures for $345 at Market Street Printers. The format will be an 8 x 11 trifold. Rick welcomed input regarding layout of photos. Dianne Ammons will staff the membership table at the summer concerts.

--Jeff and Anne Walters discussed the serious setback with starting up the Jack Loew Fountain this year. Paragon Pools refused to continue their fountain maintenance services with FMSP. The company started up the fountain with dirty basin water, which clogged the fountain.

An intense search resulted in a meeting with Gary Milos of Crystal Vision Pools in Hamburg, PA. This company has 26 years experience in pool maintenance. They agreed to provide the services required for $400 per month. They will begin work on the fountain as soon as possible.

--Jim and Jeff reported on the Summer Concerts. This year contracts will be written up for all the bands. Preparations for the picnic are complete. A new $75 park rental fee has been established by the Borough for events. FMSP does not have to pay this fee.

--Jeff is going to prepare a new 5-year Priorities List for the Borough. Gazebo repair was included and an upgrade to the restroom toilets (adding seats) was suggested.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Balassone, Secretary