The meeting was called to order by Jeff Beitel at 7:05 p.m. In attendance were Jim Salvas, Linda Scott, Anne Walters, Chantale Fieldhouse, Pat Loew, Jennifer Seaver and Veronica Balassone.

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

--Linda Scott gave the Treasurer’s Report. On the Statement of Financial Position the balance in the checking account is $39,744. The receivable balance is mainly all the memberships that were paid in advance, creating a credit balance since those memberships are not yet due. Accounts Payable of $338 is due to Flowers N More for regular monthly maintenance. On the Statement of Activities by Class for 2019 the main item to be noted is the line item for the 2019 Fall Party. Even though the same number of tickets were sold, i.e., 70, the resulting income was better by $900. This year we did not need to incur a $500 insurance expense as insurance was covered by a rider costing $89, an overpayment from last year to the caterer was credited to this year, and there were a few more higher priced tickets sold to nonmembers. FMSP has not yet received sales tax exemption status which was applied for a month ago.

--Now that FMSP is a non-profit, we are required to produce an annual report to donors and to conduct an internal audit of our financials. We will need committees to accomplish these requirements. It was agreed that it is preferable to reach out to the general membership to ask for volunteers to form these two committees. Linda will write something up for Lane Randall to put on the website. These two committees do not need more than 2 or 3 people on them.

--An additional agenda item was requested to discuss the disappointing and outdated FMSP marketing piece in the West Chester Fall Activities guide. Chantale Fieldhouse made a motion and Pat Loew seconded to create an updated one to be placed in the Winter Activities Guide. The motion was approved unanimously.

--Jeff and Eric Miller are working with Margaret Hudgings of Clean n Green’s “tree tender” program to coordinate the care of newly planted saplings with the borough arborist. This would include placing irrigation bags to water and doing what is necessary to insure growth of the young trees.

--Chantale reported on the Playground project. There are funds earmarked for MSP in the borough budget that might be available for this purpose. The funds are there for gazebo repairs which have been completed at a lower cost and replacing the Swiss Cottage roof which was done last year. Jeff, Chantale and Bill Scott are working on this. There is some concern that other entities are not following procedure in attempting to secure funds for park improvements. Jeff encouraged all to attend the Finance Committee meeting on November 13th and the Borough Council work session on November 19th to support our claim that the funds in the budget for MSP be used toward the playground project. There is an ADA aspect to our project in that it will include the addition of an “inclusive swing” on the swing set. Email blasts should be sent out to encourage attendance at these meetings.

--Jeff is concerned about the slow progress with tree management and labeling. A proposal has not yet been offered by the borough arborist and Scott Lavoritano for new tree label design and cost.
Jeff would like to try a Canadian product called Sansin Ens Top Coat on the tree sculpture rather than re-seal it with Thompson’s Water Seal which is on it now. A gallon of this matte clear finish costs $106. Also Jeff would like to protect the roots of the sculpture by having Borate applied through a system of rods drilled into root flares. The borate repels insects and stops decay. The total cost for both maintenance applications will be around $600. Jim Salvas moved and Anne Walters seconded to go ahead with the recommendations made by Jeff to maintain the tree sculpture. This was approved unanimously.

--The repairs and maintenance previously approved for the Swiss Cottage and the gazebo will be done by Ron Rosenberry as soon as possible.

--Benches have been shipped and delivery is expected around the 22nd of October.

--Additional “No Smoking” signs have been procured and will be attached to the doggie bag posts.

--Jeff is concerned about a vagrant spending his day sleeping in the gazebo. He would like to see an ordinance developed and enforced which would prevent this from occurring in the borough parks.

--The Events Committee is meeting November 1st to plan for the 2020 Progressive Dinner event.

--The Membership Committee would like to offer FMSP designed coffee mugs to new residents in our neighborhood as a welcome gift and incentive to join FMSP. Jim can order 72 mugs at a cost of $3.45 each for 11 oz. and $5.84 each for 15 oz. It was suggested that we poll members on our website to determine which design or photos should be on the mugs.

--Anne Walters reported that the Jack Loew Fountain will be closed for the winter around November 1st. She and Jeff are really pleased with the work Crystal Vision has done in maintaining the fountain and want to have a photo and write-up about them on our website. For Xmas this year they will purchase new lit garlands to hang on the fountain fence. The old garlands will be used on the gazebo. FMSP will pay Flowers n More to hang the garlands. The total cost for garlands and installation will be around $1000. Pat Loew moved and it was seconded to approve the purchase. The motion passed unanimously.

--Luminaria for Old Fashioned Christmas on Friday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m. will be organized by the Walters again this year. It is always best to have a number of adults available to assist and supervise the Scout troop’s efforts.

--Eric Miller is looking ahead to the Spring Clean-Up in April and would like anyone having a connection to a business that might want to participate to make an inquiry. He would welcome the Rotary’s participation again.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Balassone, Secretary