

## BPC Board Meeting Minutes May 1, 2017

### Albany Public Library—Bach Branch

Meeting Attendees: Felton McLaughlin, Anne Savage, Grace Bennett, Elisabeth Draper, Marsha Penrose, Gabi Sarhos, Nancy Costello and guest speaker Jason Cortes

Not in attendance: Marjorie Geiger, guest speaker--Mark Bechard

--The meeting began with acceptance of last meeting's minutes after clarification from Grace regarding the "thank you" notes for people with no e-mail address, as well as for any donors of over \$500.

--Jason Cortes shared some of his experiences working on NY State websites and his preliminary suggestions for creating a more user friendly and functional site for the Pond Conservancy. He spoke of including high resolution photos for a slideshow, of organizational methods, and of security measures. Anne cautioned against the inclusion of any items requiring regular maintenance. Jason expressed his willingness to volunteer his time and expertise.

--Gabi spoke about her plans to attend the NYSFOLA Conference on May 6 in Hamilton, NY. Felton made a motion that the Conservancy pay for the trip expenses and this was passed. Felton reiterated that we are first on the waiting list for C-SLAP water testing in the Spring of 2018.

--Details of the City Hall playground meeting with Rachel McEneny, Dan Mirabile, Nick Blais and Bob Ellis were discussed.

The security of the \$20,00 allotment was assured.

DGS meeting next Monday—committed to leveling.

Rachel to get Traffic involved; change of entrance; allocation of money for barriers.

Evaluations by National Grid; include lighting fixtures (power in the shed is needed).

"Coming Soon" promotional signage should include what will be installed.

Park signage is designed by us, (Gabi may have some leads) and they fabricate.

One permanent sign for all rules is preferable.

Donor sign for \$10,000 and up is separate. (Massry, owner of Stonehenge, not yet paid)

There will be a Kompan sign also, as seen in other parks.

Timeline for Fall is dependent on the coordination of multiple City Departments.

Community installation can take more time depending on level of involvement.

Fundraising now will involve brick sales only and Elizabeth will type them in system.

A possible mid-October deadline for brick purchases would probably stimulate sales.

--Gabi suggested that a marketing committee be added to the 2017-18 list.

--The Spring clean-up was somewhat hampered by inclement weather, however a great deal was accomplished by Felton and other board members, with the assistance of councilman Joe Igoe.

--There was a discussion of the pros and cons of continuing to benefit from the service project arranged by a teacher at The Boys' Academy. Their service day efforts leave very little to be done in the way of litter removal on the official BPC clean-up day, which has traditionally been a community building

success. It was concluded that their work needs to be directed and coordinated with the BPC event. Perhaps they could work on invasive removal if properly identified for them.

--Jewish Federation grant update by the end of May, site plan and work schedule.

--Washout area was discussed and the need for containment. Dry well requests have not been acted upon.

--No one was able to attend the CREDC update at the Empire State Plaza. Questions were raised about whether or not we are fundable. There is proof that dredging is needed.

--Marsha noted that there has not been a BLNA meeting since her last report. The next meeting will be 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, at the Elks Club. The mayor is expected to be at the meeting and Madison Avenue Phase 2 will be discussed.

--The next BPC board meeting will be 7:30 to 9 on June 5 at the Bach Library.