

Friends of Alley Pond Park (“FoAPP”)
Minutes- Membership Meeting
27 May 2021 via Zoom

1. Introduction by Chair Tom McGlinchey

2. Approval of prior membership minutes, March 25, 2021-

So moved by Annabel; seconded by Lydia. Approved as distributed

3. Approval of Executive Committee minutes, April 29, 2021 –

So moved by Louis; seconded by Dit. Approved as distributed.

4. Chair’s remarks

a. Asked if anyone had any objections for the membership and executive committee minutes be posted on FoAPP’s website one week after they were distributed internally There were no objections.

b. Suggested that everyone look at our website. He asked if anyone was interested in being trained in WordPress to serve as a backup for Vikram. Also, he thought that a couple of people should be given administrative rights. Alex L. volunteered to be trained.

5. Election of officers – Annabel

a. Annabel called for nominations from the floor. Alicia nominated Woo for Vice Chair.

b. Before the election was held, a motion was made. Motion: Could we nominate or elect someone who was not present at this meeting? Yes: 17 No: 3

c. Willingness to serve: Tom (Chair)- yes; Dit (Treasurer) – yes; Lorraine (Secretary)—yes; Woo (Vice Chair) – yes; Vikram (Vice Chair) – already expressed his yes.

d. Discussion on whether to have the election – A show of hands was deemed less than the best way. Rather than postpone the election, Annabel suggested that members vote by sending a chat message directly to her with all candidates that we are voting for. While Annabel tallied the votes, the meeting went on to the next topics.

6. History of Jacob Johnson's burial ground – Tom

7. Results of election

Chair- Tom
Vice Chair - Woo
Treasurer - Dit
Secretary - Lorraine

8. Old Business – committees reports (see attached committee reports)

a. Conservation –

- (i) Mike F. reported that the Conservation Committee will need to revisit Oakland Lake concerning the Japanese Knotweed status. Generally, this invasive plant is cut and continued to be re-cut.
- (ii) Alex mentioned that the multi-flora rose is in bloom all around the lake. Knotweed also needs some attention. An explanation was made as to why we are concerned with removing invasive plants like multi-flora rose. Native plants may be planted spring and in the fall.

b. Finance –

- (i) Tom reviewed the 2 grants that we applied for and the one grant to be open for applications in June.
- (ii) The two bike stands were received on May 25th at the NYC Parks office at Fort Totten.

c. Program –

- (i) Alicia asked about the packages for the Super Stewards. Items are in Tom's garage and need assembling. Robin volunteered to help put these items in bags. Matt ordered the drawstring bags for these. He also mentioned that he is working on hats.
- (ii) 6/12 event in Adventure Course – We need to get back to Partnerships for Parks as to amount of paint we need. Mike F. said that the garden may need a light clean-up.

d. Outreach – Tom asked that any suggestions for the website be sent to him.

5. New Business

Tom mentioned that a committee will be formed to determine if Friends of Alley Pond Park is ready to become a 501c3. One benefit would be the ability to request funds from the NYC City Council and other donors.

Adjoined 8:45 pm

Committee Reports (from 4/29/21)

Conservation Committee (Mike F., Chair)

The Conservation Committee will be meeting to observe and discuss conditions and issues north of Northern Boulevard on May 1st.

Finance Committee (Dit C., Chair)

1. Announcements for the recipients of the City Parks Foundation capacity fund grant submitted in March 2021 will be made the week of June 21st.
2. Update on shipment of two bicycle stands from Saris' representative: "Unfortunately, we have run into some delays at our Minneapolis production facility, so this order is running about 2 weeks late. That means that we should have it on the way to you folks sometime next week (week of May 3rd)." The stands will be shipped to Mike Kuchinkas' attention at the NYC Parks office at Fort Totten. When the items have been shipped, both Tom and Lorraine will receive the tracking information.
3. The reconciled balance in our fiscal sponsorship account with City Parks Foundation is \$1,795.10.

Governance Committee (Annabel B., Chair) (5/27/21)

The Governance Committee has only two Committee members, so it could use additional support.

At our next meeting, we will discuss, among other things:

- (a) Adoption of a fiscal year running 7/1 through 6/30.
- (b) Our affiliation with NYC Parks and/or plans to incorporate.

We are in the process of preparing a further revised version of the by-laws, to incorporate changes suggested by different group members. Once the proposed new by-laws have been

prepared, they will be presented to the executive committee and, if approved, subsequently circulated among the general membership along with notice of a special meeting.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee consisting of Louis Tognan and Annabel Bazante is pleased to present the following proposed slate of candidates for the 2021/22 year:

Chair:	Tom McGlinchey
Vice-Chair	Vikram Singh
Treasurer	Dit Cheung
Secretary	Lorraine

Outreach Committee (Lourdes D., Outreach Chair)

Outreach Zoom meeting was held on 4/22/2021.

1. Discussion regarding the upcoming Saturday 4/24 event, how to extend outreach. May 2021 event was also discussed re: social media promotion.
2. Items for brochures & grants discussed.
3. Email was sent to QCC for Youth/Student engagement. CUNY responded that their students are discouraged for in person events at this time.
4. Committee elections will be held for a future date.
5. Updates to the website have been made. Reviews will continue.

Program Committee

Tom McGlinchey is working on finding a new chair for this committee, effective July 2021.

Our recent project at Alley Pond Park's Adventure Course on Saturday, April 24th has a total of 26 volunteers (13 members; 4 from the interested list; and 9 new). There were three teams removing invasive plants headed by Alex L., Mike F., and Larry G. The fourth team was the clean-up group headed by Alacia S.

The Sunday, 5/16th project at Oakland Lake had a total of 28 participants (25 adults and 3 youths). The breakdown on the adults were 14 members, 6 from the interested list, and 5 new people.

***Attendees:

Members: Alacia S., Tom M., Lydia C., Robin S., Annabel B., Mike F., Lorraine E., Dit C., Margaret B., Alicia E., Alex L., Serena L., Trudy H., Lourdes D., Steve W., Louis T., Nancy T., Woo Sung P., Ian R, and Kathy K.

From our Interested List: Matt Symons, NYC Parks