

For Approval at the Next E.C. Meeting
Minutes – Executive Committee
29 April 2021 via Zoom

Participated via audio/video:

Tom McGlinchey, Chair	Annabel Bazante, Governance Chair
Dit Cheung, Treasurer	Lorraine Engenito, Secretary
Louis Tognan, Youth Chair	Lourdes December, Outreach Chair
Woo Sung Park, Co-Chair	Matt Symons, NYC Parks

1. Opening Meeting at approximately 7:04pm by Tom McGlinchey, Chair
2. Remarks by Chair
 - a. We will be creating a newsletter. Matt will write an article, along with Tom based on tonight's meeting.
 - b. Tom updated us on the family burial ground on the Vanderbilt Parkway that was once owned by Jacob Johnson, a free black man in the 1830's. A request was made to Council Member Grodenchik's office about getting the area cleared. The Urban Rangers are making a sign designating the plot.
 - c. A litter campaign organized by New York City Parks is about to begin once Litter Ambassadors are in place. Anyone interested can contact Matt Symons.
 - d. There has been some discussion about a possible serenity garden as an area for those who may be disabled.
 - e. Our next event will be on Sunday, May 16th at Oakland Lake. Jason Stein of NYC Parks Stewardship will be there, along with 3 teams from the Conservation Committee. Come and join the Urban Rangers as we plog around the lake.
 - f. The date for the June event will be submitted for approval. We plan to paint park benches.
 - g. We will be notified about our Capacity Grant Fund application in the amount of \$3000 on May 21. This time, we asked for money for insurance for each event in the year.
 - h. Suggestion for a fall event: Participants would walk through the whole park and stop by social services tables along the way.
 - i. Mark your calendar for a planning session for Friends groups thinking about incorporating. It is scheduled for May 25th at 6 pm. Tom will distribute link when it is has been posted.
3. Remarks by Matt Symons, NYC Parks
 - a. There was a good showing of politicians at the 4/24 event. Besides Council Member Grodenchik, NYS Assemblyman Edward Braunstein, and NYS Senator John Liu stopped by.
 - b. Here are several ideas of what he might mention in his upcoming newsletter article. His comments will be approved by the NYC Parks Press Office.
 - (1) Five Orienteering courses being offered at Alley Pond Park.

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- (2) Focus on what we are doing at Oakland Lake. This might include fencing on the north side.
 - (3) Matt is working with the Natural Areas Conservancy to handle the erosion issue on the south side of Oakland Lake.
 - (4) Suggestion of a potential garden.
 - (5) Eagle Scout projects are being done on the Springfield side. Knights of Columbus will be doing a clean up on 5/8th on Cloverdale Street.
 - (6) Motor Parkway groundbreaking – due for completion September 2021.
 - (7) Litter Ambassadors
 - (8) Expects to receive \$120,000 from Barry Grodenchik’s office for capital expense. He might purchase a pickup truck and a riding mower with this money.
 - (9) Good news: “Ladders for Leaders” program has been confirmed for six weeks in July and August. Six young men and women will be selected for trail work and to engage with the community.
4. Committee Reports – please see the attached Committee Reports file for the Conservation, Finance, Governance, Outreach, and Program committee reports. Additional comments have been added.
 5. Annual Meeting: 4th Thursday in May (5/27/21)

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Engenito
Secretary, Friends of Alley Pond Park

Conservation Committee (Mike Feller, Chair)

The Conservation Committee will be meeting to observe and discuss conditions and issues north of Northern Boulevard on May 1st. **Tom: Mike is recruiting members and is working on some large-scale conservation efforts. However, this is something that FoAPP would need to “grow into.”**

Finance Committee (Dit Cheung, 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. Balance in our fiscal sponsorship account with City Parks Foundation – estimated to be \$1,785.68 (\$1,772.18 with a \$15 donation less 10% fee (\$1.50) = \$1,785.68). **(The reconciled balance is \$1,795.10.)**

Governance Committee (Annabel Bazante, Chair)

Will give the report from the Nominating Committee on slate of officers to be voted on during the May Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Committee, which consists of Annabel Bazante and Louis Tognan, submits the following slate:

Tom McGlinchey, Chair
Vikram Singh, Vice Chair
Dit Cheung, Treasurer
Lorraine Engenito, Secretary

Tom thanked Woo for his past leadership.

Outreach Committee (Lourdes December, 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.

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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. **Lourdes: It is a day-to-day thing as to whether members of QCC clubs could participate in FoAPP's projects.**
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 (13members; 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.

Dit suggested a book swap at our events. There was a discussion to the pros and cons of having a library (as Little Bay Park has) versus a book swap.

Youth Committee

Annabel took the training. Her real challenge was in accessing the certificate. With Louis' help, she was able to obtain it.