

Friends of Station Square



Wendy Bachman, President; Karen Koffler, Vice-President; Elizabeth Haberkorn, Treasurer; Sue Gregg, Secretary

Directors: Giselle Bates, Arlene Cohen, Bill Donohoe, Angela Duff, Laura Evangelista, Rachel Borut-Firestone, Susanna Hof, Barbara Marsh, Suzanne Parker

Fall 2018

A CHALLENGING YEAR

Gosh – what an upheaval our beloved Station Square is going through! Watching its reconstruction take place through the summer, and now the fall, has been fascinating. We are happy to report that communications with the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation during this process have been ongoing as our officers have been kept “in the loop” while plans for the Square move forward. We are thrilled, and hope you are as well, to see the center island return to its earlier configuration with “two cut-throughs.”

Obviously we were not able to plant our usual plethora of annuals in the center island this year. However, several members of the Board donned their gardening gloves one wet

weekend in May and planted over one hundred pink petunias and lantana along the walkway and stairway leading to the Long Island Rail Road Station. I think you will agree that they thrived beautifully there (see center photo). The roses in the planters along the entrance to Greenway Terrace also did well but, alas, they were almost totally obscured by the construction fencing.

ONGOING MAINTENANCE COSTS

Many of our regular expenses have continued throughout this year even while the Square is undergoing restoration. Recognizing that it would

be unwise to skimp on any landscaping work, Rocco Parente’s crew has continued their monthly maintenance on the LIRR embankment. The sprinkler system continued to take care of the watering needs there but, unfortunately, it has also continued to show signs of its age and required further costly repairs in the summer. This has

meant that our annual expenditures have not been very different from those of previous years and we must once again ask you, our loyal “Friends,” to help us meet expenses.

Looking Ahead

Boccia’s progress on the Square has been remarkable. Standing on the steps leading up to the LIRR station you can now get a clear view of the new configuration of the center island(s). We anticipate that area will once again host a mass of annual blooms in

2019 and we encourage you to **mark Sunday, April 7th on your calendar** as the date for our next benefit. We hope that you will be able to join us at the West Side Tennis Club as we raise a toast to the next 100 years of Station Square’s history.

We would also like to introduce our new Secretary, Sue Gregg. Sue and her husband, Steve Silberberg, are longtime residents of Forest Hills Gardens and have been faithful supporters of Friends of Station Square ever since the Millennium Landscaping Appeal in 1999. You may also know Sue from her various positions volunteering for the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation Board.



VISIT US ONLINE AT: www.friendsofstationsquare.org

FINANCES

A report on the finances of Friends of Station Square will be presented on Tuesday, December 11th at the Annual Meeting. It is also available on request. Please address your inquiry to Friends of Station Square, 14 Station Square, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

Friends of Station Square is a registered 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization dedicated to beautifying Station Square. As such, FOSS is not affiliated with the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation. The organization raises its entire operating budget through generous donations from residents of the Gardens and surrounding neighborhoods. Several local businesses consistently provide financial contributions as well. The bulk of the FOSS budget goes towards landscape maintenance and watering the plant materials. In an effort to make it easier for patrons to donate to FOSS, our website now includes a PayPal link. Please use this link to conveniently donate to FOSS.

Friends of Station Square Annual Meeting

Tuesday, December 11th

7:30 p.m.

The Church-in-the-Gardens Lounge

50 Ascan Avenue

Enter through center breezeway door and go through door on left. Ring doorbell if closed.

All are welcome! Refreshments will be served.



Photos: Wendy Bachman

Please help us to continue taking care of our Square. Your support is what makes it happen.

I would like to join / renew my membership at the following level:

\$35 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ Other _____

Check here if renewal

**WE'RE NOW ACCEPTING
CONTRIBUTIONS VIA PAYPAL
at www.friendsofstationsquare.org**

I would like to volunteer to help with:

Planting _____ Mailings _____ Future benefits/fundraising _____ Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Clip and return this form with your check made out to Friends of Station Square to:

**Friends of Station Square
14 Station Square
Forest Hills, NY 11375**

OR

Contribute online via Paypal by visiting:

www.FriendsofStationSquare.org

And clicking on the "donate" button on the Contact page.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE