

Official MABA Minutes –January 3, 2016

The regular meeting of the Malvern Area Betterment Association was held at the Malvern Public Library and called to order at 4:00 p.m. on January 3, 2016.

Members in attendance were: President Deb Breeding, Secretary Diane Clay, Bruce Breeding, Ruby Simms, Greg and Bonnie Pierce, Bev Dashner, Lynn Christiansen, Cheryl Jones and Patty Beres.

Minutes were unanimously approved with a motion and a second. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was as follows: Regular checking \$10,133.81, Gateway of Chaos \$14,918.55, Grant \$40,000, Pay Pal \$1,035.77 and Malvern Bucks \$530.00. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion and second. Motion carried.

There was no signage project report as the Sommervilles were not present.

Valentine's Dinner report was given by Cheryl Jones. Classic Café will again be the location of the dinner on either 2/7 or 2/14. We will charge \$60 a couple for the dinner. A budget of approximated \$300 for entertainment and entertainers was discussed. The musician was a little too loud last year so we want to keep it softer and more in the background this year. When making reservations could we find out if they are joining others? Name and number of table information would be nice. Deb will make a reservation sheet and take it to Classic Café that include prompt questions regarding party size, meal choice and payment details. Patty offered to bar tend if needed. Server volunteers were Deb and Patty.

The upcoming **Mills County Foundation Grant** was discussed. Suggestions regarding the grant were to continue the downtown beautification project by doing a mural but the board doesn't like to award money for beautification projects. Banners for the street posts was suggested. Bruce Breeding reported that the City of Malvern is already addressing that need. More ideas included a sign with Bohner Park on Main Street, a light on the Community Building sign as well as the need for more directional signage in general. The attending members agreed for the 2016 grant proposal will be for signage downtown. Deb will report to the City at the next Council meeting to get their approval.

MABA will need to invest in something so the Christmas trees in the park can come on automatically and the electrical cords be protected from the weather. This past season there was many nights the trees did not come on at all in the rainy weather. We will wait for warmer weather to take down the light trees in the Park.

Membership flyers have been sent to every household in Malvern and Hastings. Tiffany will be over seeing memberships as they come in and send of thank you to every renewal. The membership liked the look of this year's flyers.

There was a **Summerfest** discussion/brain storming session (which is scheduled for June 18th). Ideas discussed included: the morning activities, the parade time being moved to later afternoon, having a dinner at the Fairgrounds, inflatables for the kids after the parade, the Two County Dusters performing, and having the regular morning events thru the parade then breaking until late afternoon to start activities at the fairgrounds. Finding volunteers is a continuing problem we have and not having to fill the entire day with events may make it easier to staff. Our fireworks display may not be able to be launched from the Fairgrounds because of the location of the new building. An all aerial show might be done in Dashner's field with larger shells to clear the tree line at the fairgrounds. A decision will be made after more discussion with the Knop's and Dashner's. Ruby described a military band she heard last year and she will contact them and see if they would be available to perform for us. The Summerfest plans were tabled until the next meeting.

The **2016 MABA board** was discussed. Amy Smith, Patty Beres and MinDee Sommerla have stepped down. Lura Shehan will remain as the treasurer and Diane Clay will remain as the secretary. Deb Breeding will remain as the President for one more year. The Vice President position will be vacant this year. The future of MABA was discussed.

Gateway of Chaos future and gap in leadership was discussed.

The new representative for Mills County Tourism will be Lynn Christiansen.

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.