

## **Official MABA Minutes –October 4, 2015**

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 October 4, 2015. Members in attendance were: President Deb Breeding, Secretary Diane Clay, Treasurer Lura Shehan, Bruce Breeding, Mary Poort, Amy Smith, Ruby Simms, MinDee Sommerla and Bev Dashner.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Regular checking \$8,948.39, Gateway of Chaos \$11,403.62, PayPal \$1,017.47, Project Grants \$0, Malvern Bucks \$450. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion and second. Motion carried.

MABA will not be partnering with the Fair Board in 2016 for our **Sizzlin' Summerfest Celebration**. The Fair will now always be the second week in July which will require MABA to find a new date for our event. The Fireworks/Pushball are available June 18, 2016 so that will dictate the date for Summerfest next year. The new building at the Fairgrounds may cause complications for our fireworks display. We will not know more until the building is under construction. We need to be thinking of activities that will bring people in and how to handle inflatables for the kids. MinDee will not be able to chair this activity because of the time of year, chair duties will be divided among the board. MABA netted \$6200 from the 2015 celebration.

**Gateway of Chaos** is under way with 72 tickets sold on the first night. The concession stand is offering popcorn balls, blow pops, dill pickles, s-mores kits and more. The Fair Board approved use of a propane fire pit, the fire pit and tank cover was \$253. We will also be able to use this at our Lantern Launch. MABA pays Fair Board \$1500 for rent from mid-July till the end of October for the use of the site. We discussed options to remove black paint from the cement in the building. Staffing for the evenings needs to be there by 6:45. Doors open at 7:00. People start going through the haunt at 8:00 p.m.

The **Holiday light tree kits** have arrived. MABA is on the Malvern City Council meeting agenda to talk to them about storing the tree parts. President Deb Breeding also ordered two eight foot light trees at a cost of \$79.99 each. MABA will offer the ability for the public to sponsor an 8 'tree or string of lights in memory of someone.

Cheryl Jones would like to retire starting next year from chairing the Lantern Launch. The Launch this year will be on November 28<sup>th</sup> weather permitting.

The **Festival of Trees** was discussed in detail. The East Mills School High School will be doing the dance again on Sunday night. The trees will be released on Monday, if possible, otherwise patrons can always get their trees on Sunday.

The group talked about the possibility of having a **Holiday Home Tour** with a minimum of six houses. Admission would be \$5.00 to tour all the houses. Tours would be from 10:00 to 5:00 December 5th. Deb will put an article in the Malvern Leader to see if anyone is interest in participating and members offered to contact friends/acquaintances as well.

Our **membership** drive will start next month. Deb will check with Brian Jaschen about the membership flyer he designed for MABA, and the possibility of using a different color palette and pricing of the flyers.

Deb asked if Bev Dashner would take on the responsibility of being MABA's advertising agent and she agreed.

The plan for the **Welcome Center** is to have it open from 10:00-4:00 Wednesday through Saturday. Deb is working on volunteers to staff the office. She has a list of 5 individuals that would help but more volunteers are needed.

It is time again to meet with the Liberty Memorial Building Board to renew our lease which runs Nov 1 thru Oct. 31. We are on the agenda for the October meeting.

**Miscellaneous items** discussed were the grant from Mills County Community Foundation (outcome still pending), the Federal Grant for the Farmers Market (denied) and Iowa Art Council for a Mural (denied).

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10.