

Official MABA Minutes – October 5, 2014

The regular meeting of the Malvern Area Betterment Association was held at the Malvern Public Library. It was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President Bev Dashner. Members in attendance were: President Bev Dashner, Vice President Cheryl Jones, Secretary Diane Clay, Treasurer, Deb Breeding, MinDee Sommerla, Bruce Breeding, Greg and Bonnie Pierce, Mary Poort, Carol Sonnichsen, Patty Beres, and Ruby Simms.

Minutes were read. A motion to approve the minutes was made by MinDee Sommerla and seconded by Patty Beres. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's report was as follows: Regular checking \$7,899.84 plus deposit from Malvern Bank for reimbursement for music for weekly Market \$1200. Total is \$9,149.84, New recreation project \$307.30, Gateway to Chaos \$8,133.34. Malvern Bucks \$290. **Bruce made a motion to approve the treasurers report, MinDee Sommerla seconded. Motion carried.**

The **401-403 buildings** & CDBG progress was discussed. The easements for this project are for the front 24 inches of each building participating. 403 building cost for us is \$32,000. 401 building cost is \$294,924. A \$50,000 Grant is being written to Iowa West. This is due October 15th. Pete Franks is working on applying for tax credits. The DNR grant is \$80,000. Pinnacle Construction work will start sometime next week. There is a \$150,000 contingent fund built in to the cost. The bright news is someone has shown interest in buying the 403 building.

The Rec Project was reported on. The sidewalks and parking is completed. The Fire Department will install the hoops in the next two weeks. Left to do is to paint the court. Deb talked to the Park Board about having a tournament some Saturday morning and a ribbon cutting. There is ugly gray road rock around the cement. This may be replaced with River Rock. Four benches still need to be installed. They will be cemented in on East side and this space will be stoned. We don't know about the Grant for \$75,000 from the Costello Fund for playground equipment.

Cheryl reported on the **En Plein Air Art Festival**. The art work didn't sell like usual. This even is \$700 is the red. Not the quality or as many artists as usual. Cheryl asked for ideas or sponsors for this event. Maybe kids going into art after High School as they will all need a portfolio. Maybe not join with BBQ or join with Southwest Iowa Art Tour. Maybe could be more vendors and charge vendors but it is already hard to get them to come. This is the seventh year of doing this event and is the first year we have a loss. There were not a lot of kids. Some people prefer having it downtown. We only sold 10 hotdogs out of 100. It was discussed what if we did this at a different time of year. It was discussed what to do with left-over food

Gateway of Chaos was discussed. Having food at Gateway was discussed. We could feed the Haunt kids. Classic Café feeds the haunt crew the last four nights. Last night there were 193 people. The first night the gate was \$1404. There was 11 Groupons, 60 units of 2 or 4 \$600. Lighting and signage is a problem. Kari is an awesome leader and her heart is all about the kids involved. The props have to be torn down by November 1st. October 25th is the last night. Everybody involved will spend the night tearing down. Will need help on October 26th or anytime the next week.

The truck trailer will not hold all. Another option is rearranging Spencer's garage. We have new lumber to store and there is still some used lumber in Jones shed. Incorporating with the High School shop class was excellent. Maybe some guys from Offut could be asked to help. Clarire Thalkin has been amazing help this year. She drives from Emerson and has worked several twelve hour days. We gave Claire \$200 for mileage. Kari didn't take anything this year. Kari thought we should give her a total of \$500. MinDee approves paying her as she goes far above volunteering. Bruce moved to give Claire \$300. MinDee seconded. Motion Carried.

The Welcome Center report was given by Ruby. She went to twenty four communities and put up over 240 posters for En Plein Air, BBQ Contest, and Gateway of Chaos. Ruby's time ends on September 13th. Ruby is now not getting paid for what she is doing. She is still putting in her time. The rent for the next three months till December has been paid. Our lease is up the first of November with the Liberty Memorial Building Board. We are currently paying \$100 a month. Can we renegotiate on the amount of the rent?

The **Lantern Launch** will be November 29th. Cheryl and MinDee are co-sponsors for this event. Will be needing volunteers. 150 lanterns have been bought for this year.

Festival of Trees report was given by Mary Poort and Patty Beres the Co-chairs of this event. The Fire Department will have a breakfast at the Community Building. There will be Kids Activities. YUME dance will have a mini recital at 3:30 p.m. There will be a Donation Box made. We could have cookies in the Welcome Center. There will be a donkey with antlers on the South side of the building done by Lusco Farms. Malvern Bucks will be given for the winning trees. The Festival of Tables setting was discussed. A decorated box could be put in the bank window. How about a Dinner with the Festival of Tables? Last time for the Festival of tables you signed up for a table then sold the seats at your table. There will be Vendors downstairs from 9:00 to 3:00. Maybe the dancers could be moved later. There is a possibility of having a school dance also. It would be a Magical Winters Dance. It would be a formal dance upstairs and the attendees could do a fashion show during the supper. Social time at 6:00 Dinner at 7:00. Post Prom might do this formal Dance for a fund raiser. Maybe have an Adult prom or adult Winter Ball. Bonnie, Deb and MinDee will take care of the downstairs. Need to ask FCCLA if they will do the lunch. Jessie Burdic has offered to donate to us an hour of a magician she won. Mindee & Deb Breeding will Co-chair the Festival of Tables. It was discussed about charging for the Festival of Trees.

MinDee Sommerla and Ruby Simms are **the Nominating Committee**. They will report at the next meeting.

Bev read a couple of things from Kari chair of the **Gateway of Chaos**. There are 30 volunteers. Over half of the volunteers are under the age of 15. They are from the Malvern and Glenwood Area. Youngest volunteer is 8 years old. This will never be a million dollar event but its real value is the impact this event has on the youth. This event will help repaying a lot of things in other areas.

The MABA scholarship of \$250 was discussed. Does this have to be a MABA member? Must volunteer ten hours to MABA. This won't have to use for college or school. Can use for what they want. This is offered to encourage kid's activeness. YEAH Youth. Maybe we could change the wording and not call it a scholarship. We will vote on this the next meeting.

It was discussed what we want to do this year for the **Membership campaign**. Maybe we could get the five page report Cheryl Jones did to add more information to the mail out. Should we send to every door direct? It will take \$400 to \$500 for mailing and printing. It costs \$123 to mail to every patron in the 51551 area. Maybe we should put an article in the paper then mail a flyer. Bev will work on this and maybe could mail out in December.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

