

Official MABA Minutes – April 6, 2014

The regular meeting of the Malvern Area Betterment Association was held at the Library Annex. It was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Vice President Cheryl Jones. Members in attendance were: Vice President Cheryl Jones, Secretary Diane Clay, Treasurer Deb Breeding, MinDee Sommerla, Patty Beres, Claire Thalken, Bruce Breeding, Lynn Christensen, Mary Poort, Bonnie and Greg Pierce, Greg Jones, Gary Jones, Preston Sargent, Mike Blackburn, Melena Elliott, and Fred Moreau.

Minutes were read. A motion to approve the minutes was made by MinDee Sommerla and seconded by Bonnie Pierce.

Treasurer's report was as follows: Regular checking \$14,259, New recreation project \$27,653.04, Gateway to Chaos \$9,839.58. Malvern Bucks \$485. The cost of the semi-trailer was \$2,900 and the order at Menards is \$6,300. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Patty Beres, seconded by MinDee Sommerla. Motion Carried.

The **Board member** Nancy Dixon resigned because of health reasons. There was a motion by Bonnie Pierce to nominate/elect Bruce Breeding as a board member. Greg Pierce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The 401-403 Buildings progress was discussed. Bev and Kate Phelps meet with the architect. There was an additional \$100,000 of cost added to the project. The floors have to be done to anchor rest of the work. The project will probably be an excess of \$600,000. The roof on 403 will probably add another \$43,000 to the project. The bid for the project will be going out soon. The City has to take the lowest bid. It has to be a bonded Company. The project needs to be completed by the end of the year.

The Rec Project was discussed. The project has passed through all the Boards. The plan is to at this time to proceed with building the basketball court where the yellow house is instead of the original court is. SWIPCO will demolish the house. The cost is \$6,500. Half will be paid by grant money and half by the Rec Project monies. Mike Blackburn made a motion to form a committee of Preston Sargent, Monte West, Jeff Anderson, Deb Breeding and one other Park Board member if so desired. Give this committee authority to spend the \$27,600 and they should start building the basketball court. Greg Pierce seconded the Motion. Motion carried. This will be pouring of the concrete, building fence and getting the basketball hoops. Now MABA needs to go back to the fundraising again. It was suggested to put the names in the newspaper of people as the donations come in.

The JEO/MABA meeting on March 13 had a good attendance of 48 people. On April 15th the JEO will be returning with their report back of the information. Park Board has given JEO the O.K. to do a study of the swimming pool. Mike Blackburn would like to find out exactly what are the issues with the present pool.

Gateway of Chaos was discussed. Chance has gotten the wall transportation from school to the trailer figured out. Bev has contacted the Costello family to find out if we can park the trailer on their ground next to the Fair grounds. This space is between the creek and the road. Could put advertising on the trailer. Austin Sommerla is willing to paint the advertising on the trailer. It was discussed if we could pay him. Billboard ideas were discussed. There were pros and cons for doing this.

Malena Elliott informed MABA the Library was having an **Easter Egg Hunt** this year. The plan is to do this annually. Candy has been donated from Sam's Club. The Library would like people to help clean up on Wednesday April 9th and Wednesday April 16th. MABA's old rabbit suit was discussed. Like where it is and if it is still O.K. to use. The Library asked if MABA members could help during the Easter Egg Hunt on April 19th starting at 1:00 p.m. MABA members who can help should come to the Library at 12:30 p.m.

Three options for **MABA advertising** were discussed: Our Iowa & Tourism advertising for 2014. There is no deadline. There is a Regional Tourism meeting April 16th at the Indian Creek Museum. Bonnie will talk to Iowa Tourism and find

out the details and costs for an ad and see if there is a discount if MABA offers \$100 in prizes. The Explorer, a free magazine you can get at places like the rest area. A Business Card size costs \$255 or \$235, listed under Mills County listings. Maybe the drive thru Home tours could be promoted. This is published Spring and Fall. It was suggested to find out who did the Mills County page. Maybe we can be included with the other Mills County listings. Its cost is \$325 for a quarter of a page. The Adventure magazine is published by the Glenwood Opinion Tribune. A full page ad is \$600. Don't know if we got any return from this add last year. Maybe we could do a half page. It was discussed that we need to advertise in Sarpy County. The Explorer is in Blair. Maybe we should advertise in it and in the Iowa. No decision was made at this time.

MinDee gave an **Independence Day** report. The Donkey Rescue talked to their organization and they are excited about participating in the Independence Day. They will have animals downtown during the parade and at the Fair Grounds. Auto Push Ball is planned. Still need to contact Brad Klindt about the motorcycle kick ball. MinDee is talking to people about it and finding new places to advertise.

The **En Plein Air BBQ Contest** committee had a meeting and is working on finalizing details. It will be at Boehner Pond this year. En Plein Air Art Festival part still needs volunteers to chair the Kids Art work and the Vendors. If anyone knows anyone that would help let Cheryl know.

A **Membership report** was given by Deb Breeding. We have received \$1,825 in Membership so far this year. Please pay if you haven't. Emails were sent out reminding people that joined last year it is time to rejoin now.

Bonnie Pearce and Deb Breeding reported on the **Planters/Art for the Main Street** nodes. They found planters. They are 36 inches tall and 32 inches across. They purchased four large one and four small one. They have four sculptures to put in the middle of the big pots. They are Iron Work. Looks like burgundy bricks. They will need to anchor the pots and sculptures. They went to a City Council meeting and the Planters/Art have been approved. Will need to figure out who will be keeping the planters watered. This project is moving along now.

Several **Ribbon Cuttings** was discussed. They will be done at Dr. Kuchel's office, Wabash Trace Exercise equipment, Scallywags Dog Grooming. Maybe these can all be done in the same day.

MABA received the **MCCF Grant** in the amount of \$1,000 for the Welcome Center sign at the Community Building. It is planned for a Bronze plaque type. It can't be attached to the Community Building. It needs to be made so names can be changed. It should list Liberty Memorial Building and who is in it. Bonnie Pierce is in charge of investigating the possibilities for this sign.

Ruby Simms discussed the **Welcome Packets**. They will be canvas bags. When people sign up for City water they will receive this bag. It will include telephone book and different businesses fliers, a free Malvern Leader and businesses can put in coupons etc.

The **flags on Main Street** were discussed. Monte West said he would buy new flag holders for the poles if needed. Maybe could have less holders like on every other pole.

MABA is paying Red Oak to be a part of their Chamber. The cost is around \$200. Do we need to reconsider this?

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.