

Official MABA Minutes –JUNE 7, 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 June 7, 2015. Members in attendance were: President Deb Breeding, Secretary Diane Clay, Bev Dashner, Amy Smith, Fred Moreau, Bruce Breeding, Clara, Patty Beres, Greg and Bonnie Pearce.

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

Treasurer's report: Regular checking \$37,590.40, \$30,000 of which is grant funds for 401/403, Gateway to Chaos \$4,283.05, Pay Pal \$895.02, and Malvern Bucks \$475. The fireworks payment of \$9,000 was withdrawn from the Gateway of Chaos account. Donations for fireworks from Kohll's \$3,000 and Malvern Trust & Savings Bank \$6,000 will go in the GOC acct. The treasurer's report was approved.

The **Rec Park** has its main retaining wall completed at a cost of \$1,705. The park will need additional work at a cost of \$5,000 for leveling the playground areas and installing a second retaining wall. We were awarded an additional \$15,000 to order playground equipment and mulch. There is approximately a \$2100 balance of unspent funding. Woody Jones has been contacted about making powder coated butterfly benches for the rec park. Park Board will do their own fund raising to finish this project.

Clara reported **Gateway of Chaos** is moving along. She explained the need for a trailer to haul GOC materials to and from the haunt and wanted approval to purchase one. Those in attendance explained there are individuals who have a trailer that could be used. The wood that is still stacked at Jones' storage building will be moved in the fall. MABA would like to see a budget for this year's Gateway of Chaos

The **401/403** ribbon cutting ceremony was a great success. Everybody was excited about the project results. The biggest question was what are the buildings going to be used for. Downtown looks marvelous. This project is 95% done.

There was no Welcome Center Report as the center is not currently manned. There was a help wanted ad placed in the Leader. An applicant must be 55 or over and unemployed. There are guide lines at income levels. It is \$7.25 an hour for twenty hours a week. The person would need to apply for other jobs during their employment as it is a government job training program.

The Friday night **Malvern Market** was a huge success with 21 vendors, making the downtown feel alive. A vendor fee was discussed but decided not to charge one to allow the Market to grow but leaving the option open for the future. A Season Pass for the same location in the park would be a \$50 fee. We have also put together Vendor Guidelines the participants.

Bev was able to submit a Federal Grant totaling \$63,000 for 2 years of grant funds for the Market. This grant does not require matching funds and would be used to promote the Market. The results won't be known till later this year.

MABA purchased for the Market 20 chairs and 10 umbrellas with a donation from Tom and Sue Baer of \$500 and \$160 from MABA. The Park Board had 4 benches installed around the park using funds from a grant.

Details of our upcoming **Sizzlin' Summerfest** were discussed. The Grand Marshalls will be females who have served in the armed forces. Four ladies in town have been contacted. KYFR did an interview with Deb, the 15 minute interview will air on June 20th 3 times in the morning and twice in the afternoon. We need showers and two camping spaced for the carnival people. Deb will check on renting portable showers. MinDee is working on setting up a schedule and volunteers to take money at the gate. Angie Blackburn is the chair person for the fishing contest to be held in the morning.

MABA made \$109 at the **garage sale**.

The **Wabash Trace Marathon** will be September 12th with a start time of 8 AM. The route is looking to be nationally certified by that time to bring in more participants. With the certification the route will be a little longer thru town.

Project ideas MABA would like to see happen for the town were talked about. With the next grant cycle there are many needs for the Community Building starting with making the lower level handicap accessible, with an automatic door opener, restrooms improved, and the kitchen needs improvements. The area to concentrate on is the basement. Windows, a new front door and a generator are other areas of need. Another project possibility is the Trace. Bev wrote a proposal to Iowa State Cultural Affairs for \$10,000 with no match to put a mural downtown.

The need for MABA volunteers was discussed sighting the small core of volunteers and the risk of burnout for those individuals. As dependent as MABA is on those volunteers there needs to be a marketing campaign to sell MABA and recruit more active members. Maybe there could be an appeal made to the public sighting if you enjoy something on the list of what MABA has done- we need more people to donate time to continue to offer the long of programs and community support for the betterment of Malvern.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.