

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. on November 3, 2013. Members in attendance were: President Bev Dashner, Secretary Diane Clay, Treasurer Patty Beres, Mindee Sommerla, Fred Moreau, Amy Smith, Tom Mulholland, Rebecca Johnson, Gary Jones, Cheryl Jones, Liz Baldwin, Kate Phelps, and Nancy Dickson.

Minutes were read. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Amy Smith and seconded by Patty Beres.

Treasurer's report was as follows: Regular checking \$13,577.11, New recreation project \$28,336.04, Gateway of Chaos \$20,790.55, Gateway of Chaos deposit was \$10,240. Profit was \$6,170.20. Malvern Bucks \$260. \$2,113.43 for Marathon. A Grant for \$4500 for Outdoor Rec Equipment through Mills County Public Health. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Tom Mulholland, seconded by MinDee Sommerla. Motion Carried.

A report on the En Plein Air will be given next month by Cheryl Jones.

Next year's BBQ Contest was discussed. We need to start now getting the word out. Steve Berrett would help with it. Bev will talk to Gary and J.B. then ask Steve Barrett to help.

The Grant from the Mills County Community Foundation was discussed. It can't be used for beautification projects. They did give a grant extension of the \$15,000 Rec Project Grant since the City Council hasn't accepted the project yet. We can't advertise or fund raise yet.

MABA has received \$4,000 from Costello foundation. We will be receiving the check on November 18th.

A new location for the Welcome Center was discussed. Over three pages report of what MABA has done was written up. Cheryl Jones took this to all the Community Building Board members' homes. Bonnie and Greg Pierce and Cheryl negotiated with the Community Building Board renting the legion room for \$100 a month for a year. This will be renegotiated next year. Bev will let members know when moving day will be. Will need to get approved putting signs on the front door and maybe one outside.

401-403 Main Street Grant progress was discussed. Nothing will happen on the building till next Spring. So that 403 won't get worse inside Pete's going to get on the roof to see about patching it. On November 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the Rescue Center will be a meeting with the business owners. There will be one-on-one meetings with the business owners.

The Main Street application was discussed. It was stated what needs to be done. A decision was made to wait a year.

Gateways of Chaos options were evaluated. A possibility was presented of getting portable buildings moved in on sleds. Would have to see if Hillcrest would allow us to put them on their property. The 12 by 32 foot buildings would cost \$6,195 each. We are waiting on information from the Fire Marshall if this would be acceptable. We would like to use front area and rest rooms of their main building. First we need to talk to Ryan and Denny. Second we need to hear from the Fire Marshall before any decisions can be made. There are expenses ahead on 401 and 403 Building and on the Community Recreational Project. It is hard to get volunteers to work at the Haunt. Kari brings a large following with her. The financial benefit was discussed. Maybe MABA should discontinue the Haunt for now and maybe a building would show up in a couple of years. The option of an outside haunt was discussed. Maybe it could be a downtown Malvern Haunt. Would we sell the Haunt or keep in case we would start up again in a couple of years. We could do a few events like a zombie run etc. under the Gateway of Chaos name for the name and idea is not totally dropped. A haunted hayride was suggested. Bev was commended for a great job she had done trying to find options for the Gateway of Chaos. Fred Moreau made a motion that we keep the Gateway to Chaos property and take a vacation for a year and do alternative events under the Chaos name. Kate Phelps seconded. Vote was 10 in favor, no nays and one abstained. Motion carried.

The Malvern Rec Park Project was discussed. The engineer took off 25% of the original fee for the project. MABA paid all the engineer fees out of the Rec Project. MABA verbally made a commitment to help with \$100,000 of the project.

Gateway of Chaos money was discussed.

Wabash Trace exercise equipment is installed but not completely finished. Signage is still needed. It was commented that it looks nice.

The Christmas Tree at Heritage Park was discussed. Zack Jones talked to the tree farm from last year and they did not have as big of a tree this year as last. Zack has a backup plan so he will be taking care of finding a tree. Posters were discussed. Seventy five 8 X 10 posters and twelve 11 X 17 posters was decided on. The second and third graders will be singing at 6:30 p.m. It will be on November 30th. There are plenty of lanterns on hand. Volunteers are needed to move picnic tables, make the hot chocolate and sell lanterns. MinDee Sommerla volunteered to make the hot Chocolate and Kate Phelps volunteered to sell lanterns.

A copy of the Festival of trees schedule was discussed and passed around. There will be coffee and cider upstairs. The Junior Class will be doing a Winter Ball for a fund raiser. Malvern Bucks will be given for the prizes to the Tree Winners. There will be vendors downstairs. Santa and the kid's activities will be upstairs. There will be advertising on KMA for two weeks. We are splitting the cost with community businesses. It will begin one week before lantern launch and continue through the Festival of Trees. Mary and Patty will get volunteers to help decorate Friday night.

A report on the Membership Campaign was given by Kate Phelps. She will find helpers. Nancy Dickson volunteered to help.

The need to create and Code of Conduct Policy Manual was discussed. Fred Moreau will present an example at the next meeting. Also need to update a Five Year Plan.

A nominating committee report was given. The slate of officers presented was President Bev Dashner, Vice President Cheryl Jones, Secretary Diane Clay, and Treasurer Deb Breeding. Patty Beres was commended for doing a great job as Treasurer. The Board Members were discussed. There are two openings. Fred Moreau if discontinuing and Deb will need a replacement as she is moving to Treasurer. MinDee Sommerla will stay on and Rebecca Johnson. Patty Beres will replace Deb and Nancy Dickson will replace Fred. Kate Phelps moved to accept the slate of officers. Amy Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Patty Beres made a motion to give Hillcrest a \$250 donation for Gateway of Chaos using their building and \$100 each in Malvern Bucks to Ryan and Denny. Kate Phelps seconded. Motion carried.

It was discussed Kohlls wants to put an electronic sign along Highway 34. The issue of the Welcome to Malvern Sign needs to be discussed again.

A ribbon cutting for the new Laundromat was discussed.

Stitch In Time thanked everybody for coming to their Ribbon Cutting open house.

Mulhollands has a new web site. Events that will be happening in the community will be on it. Zack Jones has a new page also.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm