

Official MABA Minutes –December 14, 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 December 14, 2015. Members in attendance were: President Deb Breeding, Secretary Diane Clay, Treasurer, Lura Shehan, Bruce Breeding, Scott Shehan, Ruby Simms, Tiffany Yakes-Starr, Ian Somerville, Jamie Sommerville and Bev Dashner.

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

Treasurer's report was as follows: Regular checking \$9,595.83, Gateway of Chaos \$14,918.55, Pay Pal \$1,050.77, Grant account \$40,000, Malvern Bucks \$530.00. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion and second. Motion carried.

Scout Ian Sommerville presented to MABA for an **Eagle Scout project** he would like to replace the Malvern bill boards on Highway 34 and improve the lighting on them. Second phase of his proposed project is to erect a monument sign at the corner of Hwy 34 and 315 St. He realized he would have to get the DOT and land owners approval. He needs funding assistance for the 2 projects, and he needs to manage the projects for his scout project. A number of options were discussed along with information MABA has gathered when looking into this project in the past. Deb then explained the grant process and MABA's commitment to the Community Building renovation for the Costello's funds. Ian was asked to gather more information and report back at the next meeting.

The **Lantern Launch** was a huge success. We have more than enough lanterns for next year and have deferred ordering more as the possibility of the lanterns being outlawed could be just around the corner.

The **Light Tree donations** had a huge response. There has been a total of \$2,655.00 received. The cost for the tree was \$2,285.50 plus \$320. There was a discussion about adding characters and trees in the park to encourage people to walk in the park. The lighting company has a Fire Truck with Santa at a cost is \$550. The Street Department has agreed to go 50-50 with us if we decided to purchase this. It is 4 ½ feet tall and ten feet long. There is another piece that is an archway made of candy canes at 12 feet tall. The cost for this is \$467. Ruby suggested that the price of these character designs be compared with an Omaha Company. A light committee was organized of Jamie Sommerville and Scott Shehan who will research what other character lights is available. Bev Dashner made a motion that MABA purchase the Fire Truck now because the Street Department is willing to pay half. Bruce Breeding seconded. Motion voted on. Tiffany Nay and Ten yeses. Motion carried.

Deb had **excellent news** for MABA. She met with the Mills County Board of Supervisor Commissioners. Deb asked if MABA would be eligible for monies from them as they support the Glenwood Chamber. They agreed to give MABA \$2500 plus a \$500 membership. This will cover the advertising we spend annually.

Claire and Deb reported on the **Gateway of Chaos** which broke even this year. There was an oversight of hours of operation not put on posters which may have led to confusion on attendance. Claire would like to hire help to move and put walls up and take down and store. A number of options were discussed about changing and enhancing the operation, and the possibility of acquiring corporate sponsorships. There will be a new MABA Board in January, any decisions will be deferred until after the first of the year. Ideas for GOC were to use Chantry School Building instead of the fairgrounds as the grounds are very dark. The location of the concession stand was discussed. Adding more things to do when people are at the Haunt like Zombie Paint Balls, Hayrack Ride, puzzle room, and a Corn Maze were ideas offered to enhance the experience. Maybe the Boy Scouts could sell pumpkins. Discussion will continue.

MinDee, Patty, and Amy are stepping down from the MABA Board of Directors. Tiffany and Beverly volunteered to serve. A motion to approve Tiffany and Bev as new Board members for the coming year was made by Bruce and Seconded by Mary. Motion Carried.

A **car show** exhibition and all it would entail was discussed with a decision to be made in January.

Mary thanked everyone for time, talent, and community spirit that allowed for a very successful 2015 **Festival of Trees**: 32 trees, 115 Santa visitors, 280 tree voters, and many generous volunteers - - Thank you! Our town was bustling with people.

Ruby suggested a few ideas for future fundraising involving turkey drawing with newspaper coupons and community concert.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.