

Special Meeting of the MBCA Board April 30, 2012

Attendance: Board members Jennifer Pritchett, William Chiappini, Jean Rosebrock, Marshall Bloom;
Guests Felicity Trueblood, Jeff Knee, Tom Lucas

Welcome: Jennifer called the meeting to order at 5:40pm with a connection exercise.

Tom gave his view of discontent and turbulence within the Board and MBCA.

Jennifer agreed that there had been disharmony in the past, but reiterated her desire to include Tom in MBCA to the extent that he wishes.

Tom asked if the master list (consisting of several hundred email addresses) is being used to notify members of upcoming meetings and events. Marshall noted that he is currently working on it, and soon the list will be used once again for mass notifications. He also noted that new members receive thank-you emails for joining, as do existing members for rejoining. It was suggested that members be notified via mass email of the MBCA Facebook page.

Tom then read comments he has received from Melrose residents regarding lack of notification. It was then suggested that MBCA email members once each week with the Alert and a statement from Jennifer.

Jennifer offered Tom the option to take over the mass email notification project; Tom declined.

It was noted that the Monitor article contained misinformation about MBCA, and stated that none of the incorrect information came from MBCA members or Board. It was then agreed that an announcement would be made at the membership meeting that the Melrose Grapevine blog still exists, and the Grapevine and Events Calendar would be included in the Alert.

Tom announced that the MBCA website shows over 80 members, but actual membership is just over 30 people. Marshall noted that he and the Membership Committee are cleaning up and updating member information.

Tom stated that he feels cut-off and disconnected from MBCA, and reiterated that he is available to answer questions.

Jennifer noted that, going forward, all emails from MBCA to the membership will be overseen by her or the Board.

William spoke regarding MBP: tending teams are established and should start Saturday, so the first team will be contacted regarding park closing.

Jennifer announced that the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department wants to remove the camphor trees and camphor groundcover from MBP to make grounds maintenance easier. She and William do not support this. Jennifer restated that she wants these and all MBP changes to be approved by Walter Cole.

The Board noted that the GAR agreement ends May 31, 2012, and that the Board needs to approve a renewal. It was agreed that, as before, MBPOA will have an opportunity to provide input.

The Board agreed that all Board members and committee chairs will be added to the MBCA website.

The meeting adjourned.

Jean Rosebrock, Secretary