

Melrose Business and Community Association Board Meeting Minutes for May 28, 2012

Attendance: Board members Jennifer Pritchett, Jean Rosebrock, Marshall Bloom, William Chiappini; Guest Felicity Trueblood

Welcome: President Jennifer Pritchett opened the meeting at 5:36pm.

Minutes: Jean presented the April Board meeting minutes. They were amended and approved with amendments.

Treasurer's Report: Rebeca did not attend; no report was presented.

Future Meeting Themes

June – Cheryl Lynch, Business Analyst, Small Business Development Center

It was decided that the June meeting will focus on helping local residents start and grow businesses. Jennifer agreed to notify MBCA membership via email, and ask Cheryl if she can attend the July 21 Business Expo. Marshall will create a color flyer about small business for the meeting.

July (Evening Meeting) – The Inn Crowd

The Board decided that the July meeting will focus on spaces for rent in the Melrose area. Jennifer noted that Keith Bollum has offered his large screen television for a presentation at the meeting. It was agreed that chips, dips and wine will be served. Jean agreed to provide chips and dips. It was suggested that the MBCA offer free rental space advertising to owners that are MBCA members. The Board also agreed that the Business Expo will be heavily touted at this meeting.

August – Local Organics

The Board decided that the August meeting will focus on locally-grown organic produce and providers. William agreed to contact Erik Schultz regarding the obesity epidemic and the nutritional aspect of organic produce. Also, William will contact Melrose Elementary School about their garden. Jennifer will invite Jonathan and Melanie at Melrose Senior Community Center (MSCC) to discuss the Center's garden. Felicity agreed to invite local beekeeping groups.

September – Youth Programs

This meeting will focus on youth programs in Melrose. The Board decided to invite Lori Alsobrook from Melrose Youth Sports Association (MYSA), Meri-lin Piantanida from the culinary program at Keystone Heights High School (KHHS) and Sherri Sims; the FFA, Scouts and library programs will also be discussed.

October – Connection, Community and Belonging

The meeting will focus on being a member of the Melrose community and will be held at Melrose Bay Park (MBP). William agreed to contact Don Richards about providing a rotisserie chicken cooker at the meeting. Additionally, MBCA elections will be held during the meeting.

November – MBCA Mixer and 30th Anniversary Celebration

This meeting will focus on the mixer and MBCA's 30th Anniversary. The Board noted that the Christmas parade and craft festival will also be discussed at this time. A Board member will contact Bob Bird concerning management of the festival.

December

The year's final membership meeting will include discussions of holiday events and resolution of outstanding issues. Also, at this time, newly elected MBCA Board members will be invited to the December Board meeting.

Melrose Bay Park (MBP) Tending Groups

It was noted that success with the current system has been spotty, and suggested that additional volunteer closers are needed. The Board will look into alternatives to the current setup, including: a combination lock, an automatic lock and making additional keys for the existing lock. Jennifer will contact Walter Cole regarding closing the park and getting more involved in the park. Jean will contact Glenda concerning a more consistent closing and opening schedule. William offered to open as necessary. The Board will arrange for security and a volunteer MBCA presence at MBP on July 4th and Labor Day. The Board suggested taking a vote on having the MBCA purchase a canopy for volunteers at MBP; Jennifer agreed to talk to Rebeca about this.

Lunches

Rebeca will contact Elizabeta Dionisi about providing lunch at the June meeting. The Board will contact other farmers market food vendors about providing lunches for future meetings.

Homemakers Club

Jennifer offered to ask Judy McLaren and Jeannie Truitt about the Homemakers Club chairs currently out for use. Marshall moved that MBCA purchase additional tables and chairs for the Homemakers Club. The motion was seconded and passed.

MBCA Board Meetings

The Board agreed that future Board meetings will be held the third Monday of each month, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at the Homemakers Club.

Events

Business Expo

Marshall updated the Board on the Expo committee's progress.

Political Rally

This was cancelled by the Board. William suggested MBCA create a questionnaire for candidates and post it on the MBCA website.

30th Anniversary Celebration

The Board decided to include locally grown and produced food and wine at this event.

Jennifer reminded us of upcoming MBCA meeting dates: membership – June 12, 2012, at 11:30am; Board – June 18, 2012, at 5:30pm. Both meetings will be at the Homemakers Club.

Jean Rosebrock, Secretary