

Melrose Business and Community Association Membership Meeting Minutes For October 14, 2014

Welcome: President Joe Rush opened the meeting at noon.

Board Members present: Joe Rush, Chris Carson, Carol Meyer, Ed O'Bryan, and Tim Parker

Secretary: Sharon Jax was absent so Marshall Bloom acted as Secretary to take meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Rebeca was absent so there was no Treasurer's Report.

Membership Report: Deborah was absent so there was no Membership Report.

Street Lighting

Adding lights at Heritage Park was discussed. Putnam County Parks & Recreation would be responsible for this. Sidewalks around the park as well as bathrooms were also discussed. Perhaps MBCA could help fund the maintenance of these items.

Lighting at Melrose Bay Park was also discussed. If anyone has a problem with the light from a Clay light pole shining into their property adjacent to the park, they should call Clay Electric Coop and see if they will black out the portion of the offending light enough to remedy the situation. The plants along the beach need attention so they don't overtake the whole beach.

Officer Elections

Deborah Massie was re-elected to Vice President, and Rebeca Gamble was re-elected to Treasurer. These are two-year terms and will not come up for election until October 2016.

MACC Liability

Joe Rush moved to provide funds for liability insurance for the MACC in exchange for using it for occasional functions. Funds for \$350 to \$600 annually were approved for two years (2015 and 2016) by the attending MBCA membership.

Merry Melrose Christmas Parade and Merry Melrose Christmas Arts & Crafts Festival

The theme for this year's parade is "The Magic of Melrose". The parade will be held 10:00am, Saturday, December 13th on SR 26. Contact Steve Thrift for float applications or details.

Immediately following the parade, the Merry Melrose Arts & Crafts Festival will be held at Heritage Park. Bob Bird is seeking vendors, and they should contact him via email at bobbird12@yahoo.com.

Also on parade day, Chuck Lowry announced that the MACC will be providing a Santa for photos at the hall. Watch for details.

Holiday Lights

The holiday lights need to be checked prior to installation. Volunteers will be sought at the November meeting for that task.

MelroseFL.com Website

Since the announcement of the Community Calendar, local participation on the website has increased. Any corrections or suggestions should be sent to Marshall Bloom, Web Editor.

Transportation Report

Christine Louton, Chairwoman of the 4 Corners Transportation Committee gave a full report of activity regarding public transportation.

- Jonathan Leslie will be speaking at the Committee meeting immediately following the MBCA General Meeting.
- Clay Transit's Magenta Line now stops regularly at The Landing in Melrose. See the schedule inside The Landing for details.
- Drew DeCandis has announced the launching of the Transportal System as a new feature of the Jacksonville Transit Authority. This online (phone friendly) system will tie routes from Jacksonville, Melrose, Gainesville, Hawthorne, Putnam Hall, Keystone Heights and the associated six counties that are participating with a single click. This is a huge step forward in providing efficient public transit to the rural areas in Northeast and North Central Florida. More details at Transportal.net.
- There is work afoot to encourage a change-over station at the Lake Santa Fe Park (west of Melrose) to connect Gainesville RTS with other local transport systems like the Magenta Line.

Guest Speaker: City Manager Terry Suggs of Keystone Heights

Terry mentioned a list of events occurring in Keystone Heights that might be of relevance to the Melrose community:

- Interconnecting transportation from Keystone Heights Senior Center to Melrose, Putnam Hall, Hawthorne, etc.
- The Keystone Heights Christmas Parade will be Saturday, December 13th, at 6:00pm and will be coordinated by the Kiwanis of KH. (The Hawthorne Christmas Parade will also be December 13th about 3:00pm).
- Beach Concerts at the Beach Pavilion and coming soon: music at the KH Farmers Market.
- There will be a Downtown Halloween event on October 31st.
- Also, a Scarecrow competition among local KH businesses.
- New sign zoning restrictions have gone into effect to improve signage in the area.
- Terry reported success with their CRA plan over the past several years.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Melrose Town Hall

5:30pm, Tuesday, November 11, 2014, at the MACC, SR 26, Melrose

Details to be arranged and verified by MBCA Board.

Marshall Bloom, Acting Secretary