

**MBCA Executive Meeting
Minutes
April 7 2015
Location: Homemakers Club**

Officers Present: Joe Rush, Deb Massie, Carol Meyer, Tim Parker, Rebecca Gamble, William Chiappini, Chris Carson, Ed O'Bryan, Stasia Rudolph
Others Present: Steve Pieczenik

Board convened at 3:05PM

Joe leads a discussion on **pedestrian safety**. Deb notes that in addition to fatality two weeks ago, there was a fender bender at last Friday's art walk. All agree that this is an issue for general meeting, need to review available options to improve safety during peak traffic times. Important that DOT is resourced as part of the strategy because this govt agency controls SR 26/21. Joe volunteers to follow-up on contact info.

Additional points of discussion: Tim Parker volunteers to contact Putnam Cty Sheriff department regarding temporary flashing yellow sign. Deb asks if we can get DOT spokesman at next executive meeting to review options. All agree to put "safety" on general meeting agenda.

Brief discussion *on less than vigorous vendor attendance* of farmers market, future?

Joe brings up pending project of better lighting in the park as possible boost to safety. Discussion ensues regarding lighting project, bathrooms for park and partnership with private donors/Putnam Cty and HMS.

Next point of discussion is the pending **Dollar General Store**.

Current street protests are getting solid press coverage. Protests will continue every Monday until vote on May 12.

Traffic challenge is brought up as a major factor in Dollar General new location, discussion ensues regarding safety and congestion considering current inadequate infrastructure.

Current intel maintains that the contractor for DG is ready to start despite protests.

Discussion moves to the broader subject of local businesses vs large corporations and future zoning challenges for Melrose.

Robust discussion includes positions that highlight the more environmentally sensitive issues related to future development: new **Jiffy Lube's** impact on ground contamination, new more strict septic system requirements by FED.

Joe re-enforces the BIG issues that should be included in the strategy of future development: Safety, Environmental Protection and Traffic. Discussion ensues leading

to the idea that our weaknesses should become our strength regarding future development (fragility of local environment, inadequate infrastructure: roads/sewage).

Topics for next Tuesday General Meeting Agenda

Pedestrian Safety
Dollar General (other pending development i.e. Jiffy Lube)
Future development strategy (partnering w/ DOT, FEDS to do the right thing for a bright future)- CRA, special area plans
Next Thursday's meeting- Melrose: Governance Options Workshop

Deborah brings up Christine Louton's efforts to bring cross county commissioners together on a regular basis (last monday of each month).

William Chiappini talks about beach opening for season, need for portapotties and volunteers for the beach upkeep. Also mentions that Melrose Bay Property Owners Assoc needs more members to volunteer for board positions.

Meeting adjourns 4:10 PM

minutes submitted by Stasia Rudolph