

**MBCA General Meeting**  
**February 13 2018**  
**Location: Homemakers**  
**MINUTES**

BOD attending: Deb, Kate, Rebeca, Peggy Jo, Fran, Tim and Stasia

Other members attending include: Jeff Klein, Cornelius Clayton, Ron Haase, Bob Byrd, Jeanie Hominy, Corrie Garnet, Keith Bolum, Marshall Bloom, Sheila Bullock, Liz Bryman, Cate Miller

Deb convenes meeting at 12:01

Rebeca updates members on financials. Over \$3K in general funds and \$600 in beach account. Rebeca reminds group that Melrose Bay Neighborhood Assoc usually donates to cover seasonal expenses.

Deb reminds members that the "Christmas Light" Fundraising remains open and we still must raise \$2000.

Deb gives update on membership and communication of events to members. Marshall adds that providing a new current address on updated membership forms will ensure members get the latest info on upcoming meetings and topics.

Deb goes *around the room* with the "round robin" format:

- Jeanie Hominy (Eaton) retired RN now does diabetes consulting
- Fran Rosano- women's Dem group Yvonne Hinson speaks at Feb 22nd mtg
- Peggy Jo- program director at senior center talks up new hours and highlights Barbara Franklin's new office for Keystone Insurance in downtown Melrose. Peggy emphasizes Barbara's support of the Melrose community.
- Jan/Ron Haase came to hear Cornelius Clayton speak and Ron mentions that he is giving a "talk" at library on Thursday Feb 22nd at 2PM....local vernacular architecture.
- Jeff Klein talks about his crusade against smart meters
- Marshall Bloom gives props to grapevine and website
- Amy introduces herself as a resident that wants to know "whats going on"
- Liz Bryant asks "whats a smart meter?" highlights her on-line vintage jewelry and flatware business.
- Bob Byrd- ***come to friday's farmer's market!***
- Keith Bolum- gives a plug for membership of historic society (HMI)
- Corrie Garnet- talks up new business at Lake Area Massage
- Nancy Germano- *sold our house in Jax, moving to Melrose full time!*
- Tom Germano- running for county commission district 4 Bradford. No phosphate mine!
- Sheila Bullock- introduces herself as Mossman BOD member, highlights Mossman website, class schedule and mobile app. Talks up upcoming "Bee Festival" and BeeBop dance March 3rd at Mossman.
- Earl Gillin- lawnscape, Cent 21 realtor and musician.
- Donna Barry- ADHD coach and partner Dr Ken Miller retired big pharma now guitar player!
- Cate Miller- retired massage teacher, 9th year of BodyFit at her home compound and does "ortho assessment". Loves Melrose and retirement but has much to offer fellow citizens.
- Kate Ellison- gives an update on the No Phosphate Mine Fight.

- Tim Parker reminds everyone to apply for homestead exemption and senior discount on prop taxes if applicable.

Cornelius Clayton presents his personal knowledge of Melrose Black History. Highlights include details on the Chevrolet Dealership (now Heritage Park) where his grandfather worked as a mechanic. He passes around a vintage photo of staff that shows his grandad among the staff at the dealership.

Cornelius details his 60+ years as a photographer and the fact that he served in Viet Nam in 1967. He moved to Melrose as a young child in 1949 and has been a member of the St John's Missionary Baptist Church since that year.

Cornelius highlights many outstanding members of the Melrose black community and reinforces that they were all entrepreneurial and very "faith based". Businesses included: farms, well drilling and gin joints. Many had large families with the Pelhams and Gaithers being some of the most prolific.

Cornelius emphasizes that faith kept the community strong and "prayer changes things".

Members show appreciation for Cornelius sharing his experience with them.

Keth Bollum updates members on Park bathroom issue. Larry Harvey promised funds in January to install ADA compliance ramp. No action yet, Keith urges Melrosians to call/email Larry Harvey and express their concern and disappointment over the delay. Keith also talks up the historic voter registration archival project that is going on in Palatka.

Deb makes a pitch for **March 10 multi-market** with all proceeds going to Laurie Jacoby.

Cornelius Clayton invites all of us to the African American Festival held on the 2nd Saturday in June. Corner of 26/219.

No further biz, Deb adjourns meeting at 12:55PM.

*minutes submitted by S Rudolph*