

Melrose Business and Community Association Membership Meeting Minutes For July 10, 2012

Welcome: President Jennifer Pritchett opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Board Members present: Jennifer Pritchett, Jean Rosebrock, William Chiappini, Badger Moring, Marshall Bloom

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes: Jean provided minutes and they were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rebeca provided the report and it was approved.

Old Business

Business Expo

Marshall gave a status update. He announced everything is on schedule and going as planned.

30th Anniversary Celebration

Jeff gave a status update and named Deb Massie as the contact person for this project. This will be a dining event (rather than a farmers market-type event) and will include a potluck if necessary.

Melrose Bay Park (MBP)

William gave a park update. He expressed a need to expand the pool of volunteers who will open, close and make frequent daytime visits to the park. He also noted the need to keep the park family-friendly. It was suggested that an electrical switch be installed on the park light; this was approved with a vote. William will contact Ray's Electric for options and prices.

Sandy McGee gave details of the wetland beach buffer plan, announced that a contractor is lined up to create terracing and asked for volunteers to remove exotic plants and place native plants. She also noted that permission was received from an adjacent property owner to remove one camphor tree on MBP's west side.

Gainesville Area Rowing (GAR)

Jen Figueroa announced that GAR is very happy at MBP and presented Jennifer with a card and an oar signed by all GAR members. Membership voted to extend GAR's MBP agreement through December 2012.

New Business

The Inn Crowd

Jennifer explained that the Inn Crowd is a network formed to encourage people to visit Melrose, stay overnight and spend money in the area. Jennifer also mentioned two websites - <https://www.airbnb.com/> and <http://www.vrbo.com/> - that list rental properties. This project gets the word out about local spaces for rent, while also connecting rental property owners with each other to answer questions and provide support.

Several people made presentations describing their properties, including Jeanne Breedlove, Jeanne Eaton, Patti Christensen, Tim and Mary Lane, Delayne Mattox and Roger Buz. Also noted were the cabins available to rent at Gold Head Branch State Park. Most of the properties mentioned will be featured on the MBCA Inn Crowd website, at the owners' request.

Rhonda Hamilton offered to connect the North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce with property owners and will also distribute the website to the Chamber.

Melrose Rural Cluster

It was announced that the Alachua County Commission will have a public hearing on Tuesday, August 28, 2012, about the Melrose Rural Cluster. It was noted that the plan is in preliminary stages, and Michael Drummond is the contact person for more information.

Multi-use Path

Jo Harbin announced that planning is in the earliest stages and the project needs funding. It was stated that MBCA will call on the membership when a community effort is needed.

Transportation Committee

Christine Louton announced that new avenues have been found for transportation funding in the Lake Santa Fe area. She also provided a questionnaire to assess future transportation needs in this area, and asked that members distribute it throughout the community.

Membership Committee

Marshall provided a membership status. He also announced the Santa Fe Lake Dwellers Association meeting at 7:00pm at Trinity Hall on August 10, 2012, at which Bob Knight will speak. The meeting is open to the public.

Rhonda Hamilton announced two events: a balance and fall-prevention session and lunch hosted by Lake Area Physical Therapy at the Melrose Senior Community Center (MSCC), and a female health day including full physicals at Hawthorne Family Medical Center on Wednesday, August 15, 2012.

Jennifer reminded us of the next MBCA membership meeting at 11:30am on Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at the Homemakers Club.

The meeting adjourned.

Jean Rosebrock, Secretary