

MELROSE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEETING- Homemaker's Club  
June 9, 2021

Board members present:

Absent:

Tom Germano  
Rebeca Richardson  
Pat Ward  
Mandie Jones  
Mark Scarborough  
Olivia Clulow  
Joe Rush  
Linda Osborne

Deb Massie

Meeting called to order by Tom Germano at 6:01 pm

Tom welcomed everyone and referenced tonight's agenda items: Treasurer's report, membership, Membership eSign-up, By-laws review/comments/vote, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Beach Park update, other business, Closing comments.

Tom welcomed everyone in attendance and noted that the last general meeting was Nov. 11, 2020, Social at the Melrose Beach Park on April 24 and comments on the park improvements.

**Rebeca Richardson:**

Treasurer's Report – **MBCA** beginning balance = \$4,793.37 (expenditures to Clay Electric - \$10.00); Membership dues/donations = \$340.00. Ending balance of \$5,123.37. **Melrose Bay Park:** Beginning balance = \$386.93 – Donation of \$350.00 from MPOA; expenditures (Gotta Go port-a potty- \$72.97; Cornelius Clayton \$50.00 for park mowing). Ending balance= \$613.96.

**Mandie Jones:**

Updating and hosting the web page at a cost of \$168.00 per year and currently working on website with Marshall Bloom. Mandie encouraged everyone to utilize the website. So far there has been one person who successfully paid membership dues on-line and one unsuccessful attempt. Rebeca Richardson commented that you don't have to register on line, you can still use paper applications.

**Linda Osborne:**

Reported that currently there are 71 members: Break down- 68 Paid/voting members, 3 /non- voting/volunteers.

**Pat Ward:**

Up date on By-laws: History- several years since the By-laws were updated/revised and needed to be Updated. The original By-laws were difficult to read and there was a need to put the community back into the By-laws. The new revisions are less directive and gives more latitude to the board and members. Several changes suggested were: 1) delete proxy voting, 2) add email voting, and 3) added several, Standing committees: Membership, Beach Park, Christmas and Finance; 4) Finance changes: All expenditures over \$250.00, with exception of the routine expenses (port-a-potty, park electric bill, mowing service) will require a vote by the members before funds are distributed: See Article XII, Section Three for the exact wording; 5) Coincide meeting dates in order to eliminate multiple meetings; 6) Other suggested changes to Article IX-Section II – added board members and officers who fail to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, the office shall be deemed vacant. 7) Also add “good conduct” section.

**Comments from members:**

1. Nicole Goff plus others voiced concern that they been member for 6 months plus, and have never received emails or notifications.
2. David Jones – Nothing in the By-laws to accommodate businesses - there should be guidance from business community
3. Richard Segall – Nothing on relationship with the 3 counties county commissioners, specifically Bradford, Putnam, Clay; Annual budget developed; timely notification of meeting dates/time/place. Tom stated it would be a good idea to touch base and perhaps invite commissioners to a meeting.
4. Dr. Mark Scarborough – Stated that he works full time and questioned the use of alternative means of communication: ZOOM, conference call, etc. -this would facilitate others who do not live in the area or cannot attend in person. Tom stated future meetings will include a dial in option, but members should do their best to attend in person. Question: Who votes on the dismissal of officers/board of directors-suggested that pulling language from Board of Directors – changing the “office SHALL be deemed vacant” to “the office MAY be deemed vacant.

**Tom Germano:**

Commented that the board was elected to conduct the day- to-day business of the association. Stressed that more emphasis on membership/community voice. And should a deadline be set for comments from the membership and that the By-laws would be emailed for everyone to view, hopefully also utilizing the MBCA website, Facebook. **Motion from the floor:** Kate Gallagher made a motion that the time frame for submitting suggestions/comments be extended two (2) weeks, second by Rissi Cherie. Motion carries. Pat stated that the items discussed tonight will not be included in the By-laws to be sent to members. Comments emailed to Pat Ward or board members will go before the committee and then the final version submitted to membership. By-laws committee introduced: Pat Ward, Tom Germano, Karen Goff, and Linda Osborne.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July- Boat parade on Lake Santa Fe:**

Parade starts in front of the Melrose Bay outside the “wake sign” @ 11:00 am, the parade route will Circumnavigate the Big Lake and then around the Little Lake. Decorate boats in red, white and blue.

**Joe Rush:**

Melrose Beach Park – Rule changes proposed: banning all fishing and no smoking in the swim area. David Jones made a comment about safety issue: parking in the No Parking zone. Joe stated that it was almost impossible to get cars towed and that times cars are parked there and not at the beach.

Other comments by Joe Rush

1. Met with Ken Cornell – Alachua Co. commissioner and Alachua Co. Sheriff
2. Four county agreement with the four county sheriff's department
3. Alachua county ordinance (action to keep boats away from the swim area)  
June 22 to extend 100 ft. out from swim area
4. Another possible rule change: no unsupervised children/must be accompanied by an adult
5. Security/supervision on special holidays- in past years paid security, but cost was significant at \$25-\$30 per hour. Switched to a security company , but the security company said it was not worth their time, so switched to paying members \$15.00 per hr. who wanted to watch the beach park  
Other suggestions: Take pictures, videos and submit to sheriff's office/MBCA contact. More members at the park could be eyes to curtail any problems. During the recent membership drive Memorial Weekend Joe "deputized" new members and gave them \$20.00 back to police the park or that they could possibly cover the cost of their membership
6. Adults can be trespassed
7. Idea: install video cameras -connect to neighbor's wifi
8. Be alert and notify authorities

**Tom Germano:**

Thanked everyone for attending and their input and encouraged members to join.

Meeting adjourned: 7:14 pm

Submitted by: Linda Osborne, Secretary