

Monroe Road Advocates Meeting Minutes: February 16, 2016
Venue: Independence Regional Library

Board Attendees: Dean Brodhag,, Richard Darlington, Robin Freeman, Dan Hayes, Nichelle Hamilton, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, John Lincoln, Ann Nickerson (for LaJuan Pringle), Mac Summers, Judith Wilson Burkes
Advisor Attendee: Leslie Scott
Away: Matt Bartels, Melissa DeBuhr, Roy Goode, Kathryn Heinen, Mary Hopper, Heather LaJoie

MoRA Board Retreat 2/6/2016 at East Mecklenburg High School

A BIG round of applause and THANK YOU to Mary Hopper for facilitating the wonderfully productive workshop on February 6.

Retreat attendees: , Dean Brodhag, Chris Cudabac, Dick Darlington, Dan Hayes, John Henderson, Kathy Hill, Heather LaJoie, John Lincoln, Judith Wilson Burke

Advisor – Art Liaison: Leslie Scott

Guests – Burt Philips, Attuned Marketing, Jennifer Duru, NBS

Facilitator – Mary Hopper

Social Media Workshop 2/9 – Independence Library

An overview of different types of social media. Speakers were:

1. Tyjuana Wilson – <http://www.tyjuana-wilson.com/>
2. John H. Leonard – referenced by John Autry for his help with other East Charlotte neighborhoods.

Thanks to Judi Wilson Burkes for setting up this event.

Bylaws Update and Vote – Dean Brodhag

The Bylaws committee (Dean Brodhag, Roy Goode, Heather LaJoie) recommend the MoRA Bylaws be passed with minor wording clarification as to advance meeting notices.

FOR – Dean Brodhag, Richard Darlington, Robin Freeman, Dan Hayes, Nichelle Hamilton, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, John Lincoln, Ann Nickerson, Mac Summers, Judith Wilson Burkes

AGAINST – None

Bylaws and Policies

The Bylaws were written intentionally so as not requiring frequent amendments. The operational specifics will be put in the MoRA Policies, and updates to policies can be more frequent and therefore more practical for ongoing reference. Policies will include such items as:

1. Board attendance requirements
2. Location and type of MoRA record retention
3. Defining subcommittees of the board and board members to lead them. This will allow us to define responsible individuals to lead specific areas of MoRA efforts.

Vote for MoRA Officers

With the passage of the Bylaws passed election of following slate of officers was nominated:

Chair – Kathy Hill

Vice Chair – Nichelle Hamilton

Treasurer – Dick Darlington

Secretary - Open

FOR – Dean Brodhag, Richard Darlington, Robin Freeman, Dan Hayes, Nichelle Hamilton, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, John Lincoln, Ann Nickerson, Mac Summers, Judith Wilson Burkes

AGAINST – None

NOTE: The office Secretary is open at this time. Heather LaJoie has stepped down due to time constraints with job and family. Heather's contributions to MoRA were many and varied. In addition to providing

timely and accurate notes of meetings, she arranged meeting rooms at East Mecklenburg High School, student volunteers for events AND helped draft the MoRA Bylaws. A BIG thank you to Heather and we look forward to her working with us in the future as her time permits.

The requirements of the Secretary role below are from the Bylaws.

1. Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board and any committee thereof.
2. Maintain the corporate records of the Corporation.
3. The giving and serving of all notices of the Corporation.
4. Perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the Board of Directors

If you or someone you know is interested in the Secretary position please contact Kathy or Nichelle.

Neighborhood Business Services (NBS) Grants – Kathy Hill

Our experience with the 2015 Neighborhood Matching Grant (NMG) has taught us lessons to apply to upcoming grants: Submit ALL receipts, whether or not they are reimbursable. This will give us a true picture of the cost of time, talent and treasure for the next event.

2015 NBS [Marketing] Grant –

This was closed out on 2/11/2016 through the GREAT effort of Kathy Hill, its Grant Manager. Many kudos to Kathy for her efforts to keep the documentation up to date and be an active liaison with the NBS grant staff. All this amounted to many hours of work behind the scenes. THANK YOU KATHY!!!

2016 NBS [Strategic Outreach] Grant –

Requested amount: \$7,177

Submitted on 2/15/2015. (Kathy had a busy February!)

Grant begins: April 15, 2016, if approved

Grant ends: June 1, 2016

Foodie Court Update – Leslie Scott - Art Advisor

Knights City Challenge grant, 2/13/2016 - Leslie Scott's Foodie Court grant was one of 10 finalists in Charlotte. <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article54514440.html>.

MoRA is proud to be part of this great project. The City/County is behind this effort too. Leslie had a meeting with 14 city and county representatives all offering their support and assistance to make the Foodie Court a success. This support gives us great resources but also requires us to plan wisely.

Next Steps:

1. Create a timeline of grant deadlines and events with required supporting effort.
2. The next steps in the KCC grant award process:
 - a. Winners announced by KCC representatives: March 16
 - b. Funds are allocated: April 16
 - c. Project kickoff: May 16

Treasurer's Report

Richard Darlington reported there is \$2,500 currently in the MoRA checking account at Truliant Federal Credit Union; this money has already been committed to Createco to procure marketing materials.

An Employer Identification Number has been acquired, North Carolina Nonprofit incorporation papers were completed, and a new bank account has been established under Monroe Road Advocates, Inc.

Next Meetings

Tuesday March 1 – Team Retreat follow-up of Breakout Groups A & B to determine next steps.

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Captain Steve's Seafood, 8517 Monroe Road

Tuesday March 15 – March Monthly Board meeting

Time: 6:00 pm Location: Independence Library

Minutes taken by Dean Brodhag