



BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 15, 2017 – Venue: Independence Regional Library

Board Members, Committee members, and Advisors: in attendance: Dean Brodhag, Richard Darlington, Paul DePiro, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, John Lincoln, Sherrie McLamb, Michael Parks, Lajuan Pringle, Ari Rodriguez, James Scanlon, Marc Seelinger

Guests: Alyson Keller & Kyle Keller, Keller Williams

Welcome, Introductions, Organizational Procedures	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Kathy Hill called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. With twelve board members in attendance, a quorum was reached.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Treasurers Report – A reminder to Board members who have not paid their \$100 for 2017. Handout attached. • Chair/Vice Chair agenda items – Kathy shared Mary Hopper’s suggestion to reach out to District 5 candidates in order to a) make them aware of MoRA and our mission, and b) get their responses to our questions. • After much discussion the Board agreed on the attached letter with the three questions to be sent to the six District 5 candidates.

Government Committee Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Scanlon , co-chair, presented Government Committee report (attached).

Arts, Culture & Education Committee Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Lincoln presented the committee’s report (attached). • John proposed that the Annual Holiday celebration be suspended for 2017 to be replaced by the Art@thePoint unveiling/dedication event because a) limited availability of volunteers to organize two events so close together; b) extra expense to MoRA may be beyond our budget. <p>The Annual Holiday celebration will resume in 2018. The Board adopted the proposal unanimously.</p>

Communications Committee Report	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Chambers, committee chair, was away but all continues to go well with Communications.

Business Outreach, Sponsorships & Advertising Committee	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dick Darlington, Committee Chair, presented report. • Discussions with Family Dollar/Dollar Tree are being planned. • Dick demonstrated a draft presentation to be used when soliciting MoRA businesses.

New business	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ari presented Excel spreadsheet to better track tasks of projects, and which will provide historical documentation for the person handling the project the next year.

Announcements	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors were introduced • Kyle Keller – Keller Williams • Alyson Keller – Keller Williams

Adjournment	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Minutes by: Dean Brodhag, Executive Committee member

August 16, 2017

To Candidates for District 5 in the 2017 Election:

We realize that you will soon be overwhelmed with the demands of running for office, and hope that you will take a few minutes to answer -- briefly -- the following three questions. Your answers should be limited to a paragraph (ideally 100 words or less).

We will publish the responses we receive in a blogpost on our website, and we will push that blogpost out on social media while encouraging residents to get informed and to vote. We ask for your response by Friday, August 31.

1) What is your position on public and alternative transit modes such as the Silver Line and the Independence Trail? If elected, would you advocate for funding these projects?

Response (< 100 words):

2) There have been recent concerns about safety along Monroe Road (see [blogpost](#)) for pedestrians, users of public transportation, cyclists, and drivers. What could or would you propose to support the Monroe Road corridor in this regard?

Response (< 100 words):

3) How do you see yourself as a potential resource for MoRA, both the organization and the area?

Response (< 100 words):

Thank you for your responses, and for your candidacy! Best of luck and we hope to meet you soon. Don't hesitate to call me if I can be of assistance, my cell is 704-231-2228.

Kathy Hill
2016-2017 Board Chair
MoRA (Monroe Road Advocates)

Government Committee Report (8/15/17)

No updates on Selwyn/Tull property or Hendrick/Garr Church property

Surveys

Results located on Google Drive associated with moraclt.org@gmail.com account. Data gathered through Google Forms, which are pushed through Social Media posts. Need to publicize more to get more input.

- Neighborhood contacts – 25
- Business Survey – 21 responses

Transportation

East John Widening in Matthews

- NCDOT-led meeting held 7/31 at Matthews Town Hall
 - NCDOT introduced revised design: not as wide, doesn't remove homes, more traffic signals, less U-turns/loops
 - Widespread resident opposition, of those in attendance; led by Preserve Matthews
 - Suggested options: Pause, cancel (& divert money to other projects)
 - MoRA Attendees: Kathy Hill, Sherrie McLamb, Dean Brodhag, James Scanlon
- Submitted position letter on behalf of MoRA to NCDOT and CRTPO on 8/15
 - Outlined effects of project for MoRA: increased traffic, incompatibility with Independence Area Plan (human and neighborhood scale, ped/ bike access, etc.)
 - Asked for project to be tabled indefinitely
- CRTPO meeting Wed, 8/16 at Charlotte Mecklenburg Govt Center; Renee Garner with Preserve Matthews attending; anyone wishing to attend and speak?

Monroe/Rama/Idlewild

- Currently in Design phase, mailer sent out to residents
- City PMs: Keith Bryant, Felix Obregon; Consultant: Ben Taylor, Kimley Horn
- <http://charlottenc.gov/Projects/Pages/IdlewildMonroeIntersection.aspx>

Upcoming Events

- Vision Workshop – early to mid-September
- Jason Lawrence with CATS has coordinated with Jack and asked to meet with MoRA reps to lock down plans to conduct workshop with area residents
- Venue: East Meck or McClintock
- Promotion: City will send mailers to areas that we specify, MoRA and City will publicize on social media
- Government 101/ Town Hall - October
- Highlight will be revisiting outcomes from workshop
- Plan to invite NCDOT and agencies from City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County for project updates
- Venue: East Meck or McClintock
- Promotion: MoRA and (perhaps) participating agencies will publicize on social media

Safety Initiative

Progress to date

- Analyzed 2016 accident data
- Conducted walking audit with Sustain Charlotte
 - Learned that City can fund improvements along Monroe, even though it's a State road
 - Supporting Preserve Matthews and submitted comments opposing East John widening
 - Learned that CRTPO is best venue for lobbying for improvements, as they prioritize funding for road projects

Follow up

- Lock down vision workshop
- Continue work with Preserve Matthews to oppose widening
- Conduct additional walk audit(s) Sustain Charlotte
- Produce multimedia presentation on MoRA safety issues and proposed solutions
 - Issues
 - Traffic accidents
 - Speeding
 - “Suicide” center turn lane for numerous driveways
 - Sidewalks: narrow with no protective buffer
 - Lack of medians and pedestrian islands
 - Substandard bus stops
 - Lack of traffic lights and key intersections (i.e. Covedale)
 - Proposed Solutions
 - Road diet – reduce lane width on Monroe and add (protected) bike lanes to reduce speed
 - Install U-turns to discourage turns across traffic
 - Install wider sidewalks (highlight intersection project and Selwyn development)
 - Install pedestrian islands and medians
 - Install traffic lights (highlight planned installations at Orchard Lake (Lidl) & Covedale)
 - Add seating and shelter for bus stops

MoRA Arts, Culture & Education Committee Report – August 2017

Mandate: Identify, design, and host events and engagement opportunities that enhance the artistic, cultural and educational experiences of the MoRA community and support the overall mission and goals of MoRA.

Key Activities for the Month:

- Art@thePoint
 - Sculpture base work has begun
 - Lee Baumgarten is working to place newly-created outdoor tiles into a pattern that supports Leslie Scott's vision
 - We are targeting after 11/8 for the dedication ceremony that will include food, drinks, city leaders, music and unveiling
 -
- Indoor Art Project
 - All 4 schools have committed to providing time and space to house the pieces of the indoor art sculpture
 - Coordination continues with the team to address how to place the tiles
 - The objective is to house the pieces in accessible locations until a permanent site (perhaps the new library – date uncertain) is built
- Holiday Tree Lighting and Festival
 - No coordinator has yet been identified
 - Our new tree is dying and Levine Properties is not being helpful as of yet in providing a replacement
 - An alternative may be to combine the Art@thePoint dedication and holiday festival