



BOARD MEETING NOTES May 15, 2018 – Independence Regional Library

Board Members, Committee Members, and Advisors in attendance: Dean Brodhag, Matt Chambers, Paul DiPirro, Kathy Hill, Ben Hutchins, Rex Jones, John Lincoln, Sherrie McLamb, Michael Parks, Ari Rodriguez, James Scanlon

Excused Absences: Richard Darlington, Jack Miller

Unexcused Absences: None

Introductions	Kathy Hill called meeting to order at 6:08 pm
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of 3/18/2018 Board meeting approved.

Treasurer’s Report	Paul DiPirro
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul gave the Treasurer’s report which was shared with the Board. MoRA’s accounts stand as follows. Operating Cash: \$5,916.24 Cash-Savings: \$1,615.52 Cash-Art Project: \$5,585.22 Total Assets: 13,217.98

Communications Committee Report	Matt Chambers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursdays Live event posted as an event on Facebook Matt suggested that we extend an invitation to prospective businesses to attend Thursdays Live. These could include: Legion Brewing, Viva Chicken, Savor, Poppy’s, Markets (ie Rhino, Earl’s Grocery, Loyalist, 7th St. Market, Piedmont Social House) (outparcel at MoRA Point?)

Arts, Culture, Entertainment Committee Report	Rex Jones and Sherrie McLamb
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of lessons learned from first two Thursday Live events - 4/12/18 & 5/10/18 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Flow of setup was improved 5/10/18. Rain reset was handled well by MoRA, band and attendees. BIG kudos to Justin at Hawthorne’s for their very generous support of the event with the amount and variety of free food provided. Though there were more families in attendance at the second event, it appeared to be a less diverse crowd than for the April event.

Business Outreach, Sponsorships, Advertising Committee Report	Ari Rodriguez
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No business sponsorships to report. The effort to engage businesses in support requires a full time effort. Ari and Dick will reach out to Monroe Road businesses and invite them to meet at the Culinary School.

Government Committee Report	Jack Miller
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Bike “Walk” at McAlpine Greenway <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jack was contacted by Rick Winiker, Greenways for Mecklenburg about joining with MoRA to sponsor a weekend family bike ride at McAlpine Greenway. Dean will reach out to Rick Winiker and Mike Perry, Ultimate Bicycle, to find a date this summer and then promote it. 2019 Charlotte City budget <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jack Miller reviewed the proposed Charlotte City budget as it might impact the MoRA area. His notes are attached below. Kathy Hill will setup a meeting with Tariq Bakhari and Braxton Winston to share items important to MoRA.

New business	Kathy Hill
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of MoRA logo and name With the announcement of the MoRA Point development has come a request to use the MoRA logo. For this and potential future requests, rather than trying to protect the MoRA logo it was determined that it furthers our mission if we let as many businesses as possible use it. In fact, we would even include logo graphics for others’ use on our website. Going forward we will differentiate MoRA the area from MoRA the organization. The following motion was proposed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Releasing the use of the official logo under Monroe Road Area The name of our organization will continue to be known as Monroe Road Advocates The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Adjournments & Next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. Next meeting 6:00 – 8:00 Tuesday June 19 Independence Regional Library

Minutes by: Dean Brodhag 5/23/2018

MoRA Government Committee Report April 17, 2018

- I. Engagement with City Council
 - a. Met w/ Matt Newton and Larkin Eggleston
 - b. Need to reach out to Tariq Bokhari and Braxton Winston for introductions
 - c. Matt Newton came to last Thursday Live

- II. City Budget [JRM e-mail 5/14] see below

- III. Independence Trail
 - a. Spoke with Jason Lawrence and suggested a follow up meeting with neighborhood leaders
 - b. Oakhurst does not seem interested in engagement and has started a petition – see attached. They have asked for our support.

- IV. Conversation with Rick Winniker Greenways for Mecklenburg – interested in teaming with MoRA for a large event at McAlpine and invite County Commissioners.

- V. MoRA Point – Announcement of name made with press coverage early May

- VI. Rezonings:
 - a. None new.

- VII. Vision Workshop – Jack e-mailed Jason Lawrence on 3/16, Jason responded 3/20 saying he would check scheduled. Jack followed up 4/17. Jason says would like to include consultant and delay workshop until consultant is hired, aiming for late summer.

MoRA Government Committee – 2019 Budget Analysis – Jack Miller

All –

I've taken a look at the City's proposed 2019 budget and taken excerpts and highlighted places I think are relevant to our work. My excerpts are attached. I had originally planned to attend the City Council public comments session but forgot I've got another commitment tonight. However, I think it would be a good idea to develop a statement from the organization to share with our city council members, maybe with a call to certain ones we have relationships with to reinforce. Here are the main topics I suspect we'd cover:

- Support the increase in funding of pedestrian safety program by \$15M. This means more funds available to fund projects requested by citizens and approved by the city. It SHOULD speed the implementation of approved projects, and is intended to help fund the City's goal of 15 pedestrian safety improvement projects per year.
- Support the \$4M funding of the Charlotte Bikes plan. This funding is 2 years overdue, and while it would have been nice for them to catch up the first two \$4M increments, some funding is certainly better than another goose egg. This is meant to help fund an additional 10 miles per year of "Bikeways" – not sure exactly what that means.
- The Independence Trail funding is unchanged at \$8M. I don't know if no additional funds allocated to this project this year is prejudicial to the ability to reallocate funds from other projects within the city budget. I suspect it is not, the "new" money appears to be in the form of new 2018 and 2020 revenue bonds.
- There's a surprise proposal for an additional \$2.5M for the Monroe/Idlewild/Rama intersection project for increased funding for land acquisition and buffered bike lanes. This goes to my point above, I'm glad to have more money in the area, but is it better to use those funds for other projects? I don't think we want to oppose this, but getting some guidance from someone familiar with the process would be helpful.
- Support continued development of the UDO and Charlotte Place Type Policies and encourage finalization and implementation as soon as possible.

If anyone else has reviewed the budget and has other thoughts on issues for us to weigh in on, please let James and me know.

Thanks,

Jack