

MONMOUTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2023

Monmouth Public Library

Meeting was called to order by Tori Stutzman at 8:00 am.

Welcome New Businesses

In attendance:

Tori Stutzman, MBA President	Phyllis Bolman, MBA Secretary
Miriam Haugen, MBA Vice President	Gwen Whelton, MBA Communications
Sabra Jewell, City of Monmouth	Suzanne Dufner, City of Monmouth
Jason Sunada, WOU	Emily McNulty, Mamere's
Roxanne Beltz, Robixy Creative Services	Andi Moring, Smith Fine Arts Series
PJ Armstrong, MINET	Marilyn Morton, 2C1C
Bill Foster, Cascade Management	Kathy Dingus, Ash Creek Arts Center

The meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Celebrations & Announcements

- **City** – Sabra noted that we are close to launch the M-I Trolley
- **Chamber** – Roxanne said that the Awards nominations closed yesterday, and the event will be at the Independence Cinema on April 13. The State of the Cities address has been postponed to March 7, 11 am at the Independence Civic Center
- **WOU** – Jason talked about Giving Day is March 7 and the goal is \$300,000. He gave a shout out to the Women's Track and Field for winning the first time ever. Andi discussed the Matthew Shepard Legacy Project.
- **& More** – Kathy stated that Ash Creek Art Center has quite a few upcoming classes

Noise Ordinance – Phyllis noted that the City Manager was not able to attend the meeting today.

Approval of February 1, 2023, meeting minutes and financials:

Miriam moved to approve the minutes. Gwen seconded. Motion carries.

- **Membership & Outreach** (Outreach both within the MBA members and externally)

Gwen reported the discussion was to talk with new members, having visits, with welcome baskets. Maybe having quarterly meetings at Crush.

- **Design** (Maintenance, History/Heritage, Appropriate Design, Place making)

Tori said that the Design Committee had come up with the idea to paint the MINET boxes with artwork.

- **Promotions** (How to promote the MBA and our events)

Miriam said they were working out their mission. She said that they are looking at uniform branding for MBA events and supplement help for the events. Miriam noted that they continue to have a good social media presence.

Roxanne suggested we track our Facebook hits.

Marilyn suggested we could create a calendar, possibly in conjunction with IDA.

- **Economic Vitality** (Strengthening the district's economic base)

Suzanne said that the Committee discussed strengthening and helping businesses. They discussed having art involved in all of the events. Gwen asked about historic events.

- **Music in the Park** (Event, budget report)

Bill stated that Suzanne has done a great job signing up the bands. He said that they cannot hire the bands unless the budget is approved. He requested \$14,000 for the budget for the bands.

MOTION – Bill moved to approve the budget of \$14,000 for the bands. Miriam seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Budgeting Announcements: We are talking about creating budgets for each event and subcommittee. Subcommittees this year, please be paying attention to what you are spending money on and document ideas of what you would like to spend money on in the future.

There was a discussion about when to budget and Bill noted that a budget has to be presented 30 in advance.

Upcoming Events that are Happening:

- Peacock Festival (and if you have a spare peacock, or would like to volunteer, let us know)

Roxanne discussed the fun activities at her event. She said that it is May 20th from 9 to 6.

Marilyn stated that the Main Street Conference is the 4th 5th 6th of October and will be held at Independence Civic Center. She added that History and Mystery is on the 5th, the Ghost Walk is on the 6th.

- Rain Activated Art Tori explained the event.
- WOU has Orientation Days coming up April 3rd and 4th.

Sabra noted that the Skate Park groundbreaking will be March 13th.

MOTION – Bill moved to give the Chamber \$350 for sponsorship for the banquet. Miriam seconded. Motion passes with one abstention.

Next Meeting Wednesday, April 05, 2023, at 8:00 am

Adjourn: 9:07 am.