

MABS BOT MEETING
Wednesday, Dec 17, 2008
Landmark Inn, 6/6:30 pm

Attendees:

Terry Klavitter, President
Elizabeth Letts, Vice President
Sue Schenk Drobny, Secretary
JoAnne Maki, Treasurer (absent)
Tom Buchkoe, BOT
Dave Crum, BOT, Vendor guy
Wayne Dickinson, BOT, Sponsors, Grants and Development
Marshall Killian, BOT, Ed. Outreach
Larry Letts, BOT, Events Chair (came in at end of meeting)
Walt Lindala, PR
Mark Maki, BOT
Mark Stonerock (Stony), Fest Director

Others in attendance: Members April Lindala (past president) and Deb Duquette, and visitor John Mallo.

Terry welcomed everyone, introductions took place around the table. Additions requested to the agenda...Business after hours, UP-200, 2008 Fest Survey. Tom motioned to accept the new agenda, Stony supported, all in favor.

November minutes: motion to accept by Dave, 2nd by Mark, all in favor. Walt thanked Sue for several years of taking minutes (Sue at term limit for Secretary as of January 09).

Public Comment: John Mallo from the Marquette Arts and Cultural Committee asked that we write a non-committing letter of support to the City. This is on the covered portable stage that the committee received a grant for (but needs a match from the City of Marquette). In order for the City to pay their part, John feels area groups that would use the stage need to let the City know they are willing to pay a rental amount each year for five years or so, so that the City will release matching money so the grant will definitely go through. The planned stage would be 48'x48', City would hire the laborers to set it up. A separate non-profit would probably be in charge of scheduling events for the stage. MABS would be a major contributor, along with Hiawatha. Plan is to purchase this in February 2009, we could use it at the 2009 Fest. Questions about lighting capability, availability of racks for lights, seating size, ambiance. Stony would like to see a "to scale" drawing of the stage in the Lower Harbor Park. John needs a letter from us by about January 6 in order to get it copied, put in packets, and placed in front of the City Commission by January 16. John left, more discussion. Not sure on the size and configuration of the stage and covering—does not appear many people would be able to fit under the tent part. More discussion, and Jim Supanich's input needed. Motion by Stony to discuss further at a January Fest meeting after all, at Stonerock's, January 5, potluck, 6:30 pm, and create the letter. Marshall supported motion. All in favor except one opposed.

Officers Reports

President: Terry thanked Elizabeth for her work in Merchandise, Sue for Secretarial, and JoAnne for accounting work. Walt said the merchandise Elizabeth found was above and beyond what he could have imagined he'd see at our Fest; thanked Sue for being the communicator of goings-on through the year; and applauded JoAnne for wrestling with the new Quick Books computer system with the Treasury reports with few complaints.

V.P.: Elizabeth passed out a written report on membership (attached to the paper copy of these minutes), there are 115 current members.

Secretary: Sue sent out three bid letters for Port-o-johns for the 2009 Fest, said she will no longer be on the board but is not going far and plans to be an active member of MABS.

Treasurer: Unfortunately, JoAnne could not attend due to a family emergency. Mark passed out paper copies of the treasurer report (attached to the paper copy of these minutes), checking account has \$4253.96, Money Maker account has \$34,236.21. Dave motioned to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by Marshall, all in favor.

Standing Committee Reports

Educational Outreach: Marshall noted he was taking a new job (in the area) but may be working a lot of overtime and will not likely have time to head this committee. He apologized he felt he had been unable to generate much momentum with this committee.

UP Blues News: Walt said the issue was out this week, thanks to April for the help. He has extra copies for anyone that wants to put them out. Promotion of the Dog Days of Winter will start soon, as we know more details from Larry.

Events: Larry unable to attend, left Elizabeth some notes. Listing of possible, affordable artists for Feb 20 Dog Days of Winter event. Scott (owner of Skyboxx/Matrixx) offered use of the Matrixx for the event (much larger venue!!). Jim Supanich will do sound and lights for \$200, may be \$300 left in budget for rooms for artists and some small amount for promo. Larry talked with Brian Jensen of Comfort Suites, will get back to him on any deals available to house out of town artists. Larry has also talked with 100.3 for promo information. Kilbourn Alley Blues Band seems to be the most popular choice of the bands on Larry's list (by BOT attendees). Dave motioned Larry proceed with what he thinks is best for this event, 2nd by Stony. Discussion: April suggested we get the event posted on the Marquette Arts community calendar, is there a supporting committee for Larry??? Vote: all in favor that Larry proceed.

Merchandise: Elizabeth said although she is stepping aside, she will not leave her successor "hanging", will help the new person out. She had one strong suggestion that the volunteer and artists' t-shirts be given out at the volunteer tent in 2009. Deb has expressed interest in taking over the Merchandise area, thanks Deb!! Standing Committee heads (such as Merchandise) are officially designated at the January meeting (part of our by-laws).

Festival: Stony had not planned to have a Fest meeting in January, but that changed tonight now that the stage needs to be discussed. Please bring your ideas and concerns about any and all stage layouts to this meeting. Has discussed with Walt a plan for a volunteer thank you party and send off of the *On the Spot Blues Band* from the Copper Country (to Memphis for a "contest"), more coming on this plan. He changed the message on the answering machine to a general one about the 2009 Fest. Need to put a "Dog Days" message in place of Walter Trout now....

Wayne passed out copies of the 2008 Fest Survey, compiled by "Sue" of the Marquette County Convention and Visitors' Bureau. Good confidence on the results from the sample size, he noted. 47% of the respondents were 46-55 years old, and 26% were 56 - 65 years old. Less locals than out-of-towners took the survey (and are probably attending the event), and 25% of survey sample stayed in area hotels.

Suggestion to link MySpace or U-Tube sites of artists to our web page from Deb.

Old Business

UP 200: Deb called someone on the UP200 board to ask about sponsorship levels: \$125 for mile club, \$60 to have a banner on a sled, \$500 to have a banner at the opening and closing ceremonies. Discussion on volunteering at Chocoy road crossings this year, rather than the Co Rd 550 crossing for the Midnight Run, as we are having a Blues Event at the Matrixx that same night—to be discussed further. Crowd control or a Sunday event are other options. Wayne motioned we sponsor UPSDA at the \$500 level, for all the years we have used the barricades at the Fest, Stony 2nd. Discussion---all in favor. Tom will look into at least two banners at Signs Now to use at the dog races, at the 2009 Fest, and at the 4th of July parade.

Nominations and number of BOT seats: Stephanie has resigned her seat for the remainder of her term (2009). Others with one year terms left are Terry, Larry, Tom, Mark M, and Wayne. Those with seats up for re-election are Mark S, Walt, Dave, Marshall, Elizabeth (not returning), JoAnne (not returning) and Sue (not returning). Sue nominated Mark S, Walt, Dave, and Marshall, they all accepted. Mark M nominated Deb Duquette and April Lindala, both accepted. Wayne nominated Jerry Peterson and Bill Perron, neither are at tonight's meeting and they have until the January meeting to accept.

Discussion on the one year opening left by Steph.....looked at bylaws, the BOT (not the membership) is to fill that position. Mark motioned we elect Marshall for that one year position, 2nd by Elizabeth, to take effect at the next meeting. All in favor. Therefore, the ballot will look like (all for 2 year terms):

Mark Stonerock
Walt Lindala
Dave Crum
Deb Duquette
April Lindala
Jerry Peterson (pending acceptance of nomination)
Bill Perron (pending acceptance of nomination)

Mark motioned we allow 13 members on the BOT for 2009, 2nd by Dave, all in favor.

Business After Hours: Dave looked into the LSCP events for 2009, only three scheduled right now. Discussion. Tom motioned, with support from Sue, that Elizabeth and Dave work on piggybacking with some other business to get MABS in one of these, maybe the first quarter of 2009. All in favor.

Good of the Order: Tom showed his copy of BAM Fest 2007 CD, can be purchased on line at CD Baby for \$13 before Christmas, he said the sound is very good even though it's a live recording. Will get info to Sue to broadcast in an email.

Holiday gift exchange---thanks for the gifts, all!

Terry brought up the fact he bought appetizers for this meeting, and would for the January meeting. Elizabeth motioned, with support from Dave, we pay from the budget for these two events. All in favor except for one opposed.

Terry is hosting a party at his house January 16.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schenk Drobny
MABS Secretary

attachments: VP report, Treasury report, 2008 Fest Survey