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| Minutes | | | | | | |
| **01/28/14** | | **7:00pm** | | | **Hatboro Baptist Church Annex** | |
| **Meeting called by** | Melinda Goodwin, President | | | | | |
| **Type of meeting** | General Membership Meeting | | | | | |
| **Note taker** | Jennifer Cox, Secretary | | | | | |
| **Board Member Attendees** | Bill Godshall, Melinda Goodwin, Michael Gorn, Bob Griffenberg, Jennifer Cox, Joe Grossman, Leslie Jones | | | | | |
| **General Member Attendees** | 7: Gary Piotrowski, Bonnie Hunkins, Dawn Marshall, Doris Lloyd, Susan Tafel, Dani Harting, Jim Maccaroni, Mary Griffenberg | | | | | |
| Agenda | | | | | | |
| **Welcome to the HRA 2014** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Monthly meetings moved to the FOURTH TUESDAY of every month at 7pm * Location to remain at the Hatboro Baptist Church Annex | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Introduction of Executive Board** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| PRESIDENT: Melinda Goodwin  VICE PRESIDENT: Leslie Jones  SECRETARY: Jennifer Cox  TREASURER: Bob Griffenberg   * Noted that there are EIGHT Board Members; one is a non-voting alternate to avoid potential tie votes (only to vote in the case of an absent voting Board Member). Jennifer Cox has assumed the role of voting Board Member in place of Joe Grossman who will be the non-voting alternate. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Treasurer’s Report** | | | Bob Griffenberg | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Starting balance as of 11/20/2013: $737.38 * Income of $377.00 ($55.00 membership donations, $230.00 t-shirt sales, $92.00 Coins for the Clock donations) * Expenditures of $466.96 ($62.00 P.O. Box fee, $16.00 Joe Gabel Newsletter, $325.20 Kampus Klothes for T-shirts, $63.76 for parade candy) * Ending Balance as of 01/28/14 = $ 647.42 * Taxes for 2013 have been filed and accepted by the IRS | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **HRA Mission Statement** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| The mission of the Hatboro Residents’ Association is to advocate for the preservation and improvement of town-based life for the residents of Hatboro. Quality of Life issues include, but are not limited to:   * Historical Preservation * Town Beautification * Economic Revitalization * Social and Cultural Offerings   In order to enhance the quality of life for residents, the HRA will establish and maintain an open line of communication between residents, borough agencies, businesses, and other organizations. We will support initiatives among these groups to further the mission of the Association. We will provide an open process by which all residents may invoke themselves in the Hatboro Residents’ Association. | | | | | | |
| Conclusions |  | | | | | |
| * Members present agreed with the current mission of the HRA | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Invitations to Borough Council / Hatboro Police Department** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Part of the mission of the HRA is to include everyone, including borough agencies. We wish to work with all organizations to create a better Hatboro. * Melinda Goodwin spoke to the Chief Gardner (Chief of Hatboro Police Department), and extended an invitation to attend the monthly HRA meetings . Chief Gardner accepted the invitation and plans to attend our next open meeting. * Melinda Goodwin spoke to John Zygmont (President of Borough Council) to extend an invitation to attend the monthly HRA General Membership Meetings. Mr. Zygmont responded that he will be happy to attend the next Board Meeting and then he and/or other Councilpersons will try to attend our General Membership meetings regularly as they are able. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| Follow up with Council and Chief of Police with meeting schedules | | | | Melinda Goodwin | |  |
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| **Membership Discount Card Project** | | | Jennifer Cox | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Board has approved the project of creating a Membership Discount Card for HRA members – still in final design phase. * Previously, HRA survived on all voluntary donations; in the future we will still offer free membership, but will offer a special Membership Discount Card to all those who contribute $15 or more. * Cards will promote local business and economy, as well as provide savings to members. * Local merchants can get free advertising and hopefully increased business by participating * Businesses will be requested to inform the HRA of what deals / discounts they will be offering on a monthly basis, and these discounts will be promoted on our website as well as via Facebook. Businesses may also display a placard in their store front indicating that they are a participant. | | | | | | |
| Conclusions |  | | | | | |
| * Residents shared positive comments for this idea | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Public Relations / Advertising Efforts** | | | Bill Godshall | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Bill spoke to Curt DeFurio regarding creation of a large banner (same as other organizations have hung in town) and received a quote of $685. This banner could promote the HRA and the Farmer’s Market. * Bill spoke to Borough Hall about the hanging of the banner, and the Public Works Department will install the banner free of charge. * Bill brought a recent copy of “The Wire” publication for review. This newspaper which is mailed to homes in the borough has written several very good articles about our town and has a community calendar in it which would be a good place to advertise our meetings and events free of charge. * It was suggested that we advertise our meetings and events on the radio station in town, WDVR. The station requires 6 weeks advanced notice for any announcements. * Another possible publication for us to promote the HRA in is the Borough Newsletter, believed to be published quarterly by Borough Council. Previously it is thought to have cost hundreds of dollars to be included; we should check on current pricing, as they did post announcements for the Village Players Theater free of charge * Joe Grossman encouraged residents to use word of mouth to spread the HRA name to their friends and neighbors in Hatboro – any and all help is appreciated and will help bring events to our town * The Hatboro public access TV channel is already running the new HRA meeting times. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| Submit our meeting schedule to The Wire to add to their published calendar of events | | | | Jenn Cox | | 02/11/14 |
| Contact Diane Hegele regarding publication in the Hatboro Newsletter | | | | Jenn Cox | | 02/11/14 |
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| **Hatboro Farmer’s Market Changes and Updates** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * The Board has decided to change the name of the Hatboro Gardener’s Market to the Hatboro Farmer’s Market. We will continue to invite all local home gardeners to sell their fresh produce and homemade goods, as well as local, larger scale Farmers as we’ve had last summer. * Bob Griffenberg met with the Hatboro Baptist Church Board and it was approved to hold our market on their property again this year, but also include use of the front lawn area along York Road for greater exposure. * Pending final church approval, the market will be held EVERY Friday, rather than just the 1st and 3rd Fridays as it was last year. * A greater amount of vendors will be solicited for this year’s upcoming market schedule. It is hoped that because our market will be held on Fridays (most area markets are on Saturdays) and because it will be weekly, that more vendors will be interested in selling their products with us. * On the first Friday of every month of our Farmer’s Market, we would like to have “theme nights,” that would include special themed foods and music, featuring nationalities like “Italian night” or “Mexican night” * We would like to offer live music every Friday at the market. The Hatboro Baptist Church has resolved to be more involved with the Market, possibly providing music some evenings. * We need to draw more people into the market to keep our vendors coming back – publication on websites such as localharvest.org, the patch, as well as advertising on the Hatboro TV channel and print media will be done. We need to spread the event via word of mouth and greater exposure in all venues. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Clock Tower Restoration Funding** | | | Michael Gorn | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Michael Gorn attended the Borough Council Meeting on 01/27/14 in which Dave Shannon of the Millbrook Historical Society discussed with the Council the funding of the restoration project of the Town Hall Clock * Total needed to receive matching funding from Montgomery County = $50,000 * Fundraising efforts fell $3,750 short of this goal; Borough Council voted to approve the funding of this final amount so that we meet the required $50,000 * Clock restoration is a go! Complete restoration should take approximately 6 months, with a goal to complete by 2015 for the 300th anniversary of Hatboro. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **HRA Subcommittees** | | | Melinda Goodwin | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * Restate the need for community participation and assistance to make Hatboro a better place. * Open invitation extended to all residents to volunteer for sub-committees / assistance of the HRA. * Help in the future would include “The Borough’s Biggest Yard Sale,” the Farmer’s Market, Membership drives, and other events. * Previous Executive Board Member Mindy has offered her continued assistance for the Farmer’s Market. | | | | | | |
| Conclusions |  | | | | | |
| * Several residents expressed interest in helping the HRA as needed. | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| NONE | | | |  | |  |
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| **Borough Council Meeting of 01/27/14** | | | Michael Gorn | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * The POD storage unit ordinance (limiting placement of such units to 30 days) has been passed by Council. * See agenda subtopic regarding clock restoration project approval. | | | | | | |
| In the PATCH: there has been a pre-meeting held by Council about rezoning the Jacksonville Road corridor. Currently this area is zoned as heavy industrial, and looking to change it to mixed use and residential  Discussion regarding Elm Street Project vs. Main Street Project – both established as Pennsylvania grant programs offering different types of revitalization assistance | | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| Acquire and provide residents with information regarding the Elm Street and Main Street projects, as well as gain greater understanding for the HRA | | | | BOARD | | 02/11/14 |
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| **Additional Discussions** | | |  | | | |
| Discussion |  | | | | | |
| * The next Tricentennial Meeting held by the Greater Hatboro Chamber of Commerce will be held on Monday February 3, 2014 at 7pm at Hatboro Federal Savings. If interested in attending and helping out, contact Joe Tryon (President) at (215) 956-9540 or office@hatborochamber.org | | | | | | |
| * Suggested to look into contacting PHMC into installing Historic Markers at the Old Mill Inn, the Crooked Billet House, and/or other historic places of interest in Hatboro | | | | | | |
| * Suggested that the HRA create magnets (for cars or refrigerators) to sell as a fundraiser. | | | | | | |
| * Concern raised about trash around town, especially in shrubs along the streets. Possible solutions may include going to Borough Council to request more trash cans or recycling bins, or organizing a community clean up day. Part of our mission statement includes “Town Beautification.” | | | | | | |
| * Susan Tafel recalled an event entitled “Bids and Bites” that had been held many years ago behind Hatboro Federal Savings. This event offered tickets for $15 each which entitled people to sample food and wine from local restaurants, as well as bidding in a silent auction. Suggested that perhaps the HRA could organize a similar event. | | | | | | |
| * Susan Tafel offered to provide her husband’s unique train display entitled “You be the Engineer” at an HRA event for kids and adults alike to enjoy. The train layout does take some time to set up and needs to be protected from the weather, so any event would need to be held indoors and for about a week long to be worth the extensive work. It was suggested that this perhaps be included in the 300th anniversary celebration or the church vacation bible camp held at the end of June. Contact Susan if interested. | | | | | | |
| * Bob Griffenberg shared the Hatboro Baptist Church’s desire to start a Community Garden. Such a garden would be planted and maintained by local resident volunteers, and all produce picked would be donated to local food banks and the less fortunate. More details to follow. It was suggested to contact the Crooked Billet Gardener’s Group for assistance and guidance, as well as local colleges who have agricultural programs. | | | | | | |
| * Residents in attendance at this meeting expressed happiness that our General Membership Meetings had been moved to Tuesday evenings as it allows Millbrook Society Members to attend both. | | | | | | |
| * We have over 7000 residents in Hatboro – we need more attendance at the HRA meetings! | | | | | | |
| Conclusions |  | | | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| Contact Joe Tryon at (215) 956-9540 or [office@hatborochamber.org](mailto:office@hatborochamber.org) if interested in helping the Chamber of Commerce with planning of the Tricentennial events or attending this meeting. | | | | ALL | | 02/03/14 |
| Contact Millbrook Society regarding installation of historic markers | | | | BOARD | | 02/11/14 |
| Discuss trash concerns with Borough Council – possibly more trash cans? | | | | Michael Gorn | | 02/11/14 |
| **ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS** | | |  | | | |
| Action Items | | | | Person Responsible | | Deadline |
| Write thank you letter to Chamber of Commerce to thank them for the “hat” lights that line the business district along York Road – residents seem to really appreciate this touch! (Motion by Jim Maccaroni) | | | | Jenn Cox | | 02/11/14 |
| Send email to all members reannouncing our website address, Facebook page, and email address. | | | | Jenn Cox | | When details finalized |
| Email editor of Hatboro Life Magazine to add our meetings to their calendar | | | | Jenn Cox | | 02/11/14 |
| Have Address, Email and Website added to all of our communications and logos | | | |  | |  |

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th, at 7:00pm at the Hatboro Baptist Church Annex**

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| Meeting Adjourned | |
| **Meeting adjourned by** | Leslie Jones |
| **Seconded by** | Melinda Goodwin |