

Mount Airy Main Street Association
October 16, 2007
www.mountairymainstreet.org

1. Introductions:

Celia Bernido	Jim Gangawere	Kelly Ziad	Jim King
John Cherry	Judy Elwood	Tonya Lee (<i>Messenger</i>)	Tina Swanson
Dalia Schulman	Chris Bernido	Mindy Barnowski	Dick Swanson
Ellie Bonde	Jim Holt	Connie McKain	Rick Lank
Rebecca Rush	Dan Caiola	Patrick Ellis	Mike Watson
Charity Finnerty	Gary Nelson	John Cherry	Frank Johson

An announcement was made that a scheduled presentation from Brian Gallagher has been postponed. Mr. Gallagher is the owner of the train station located downtown.

2. Committee Reports

A. Organization (open position): No report this month.

B. Promotions (Ellie Bonde): Ellie missed last month's meeting so she provided a report covering Promotions activities for the last couple months. She provided an update on the Farmer's Market which has closed for the season. Each of the vendors has agreed to return next year. MAMSA has organized some successful Second Saturday events, including the August Block Party with the magician and face painter; the Mount Airy History 101 event (that coincidentally was held 6 days after the fire and successfully brought a large number of people downtown to support local businesses). The October Second Saturday event was not well publicized. Ellie noted that additional volunteers are needed on the committee to help plan and run successful events. In November, MAMSA will be organizing the Holiday Preview, which will celebrate the opening of the "temporary shopping village." Stores will have wine tastings and shoppers will be encouraged to visit all of the shops.

Volunteers are needed for the 10/27 concert to man a booth to collect donations and sell 50/50 raffle tickets. MAMSA may also organize downtown trick or treating the morning of the concert from 11 to 2 pm. Shoppers will be able to pick up box lunches from Concetta's, the Candy Bar, and Vintage Coffee to take to the benefit concert.

Second Monday of every month is the regular date for the Promotions Committee meeting.

C. Economic Restructuring (Dick Swanson): Dick indicated that the committee did not hold a meeting this month due to other on-going activities in response to the fire.

D. Facade (Chris Bernido): Chris provided an update on some of the Facade grants: the first project, Blossom and Basket has been paid, as has the Brown Reagle Insurance Building project; the State has given some flexibility for the Olde Town Restaurant project. The Facade grant is supposed to be for the exterior of buildings, but as a result of

the fire, the State has allowed for use of grant money for some interior aspects of the building (e.g., decorative ceiling). Remaining available grant money is about \$143,000.

E. Design (Tina Swanson): The planter that was damaged by the fire has been repaired by the manufacturer. The missing parts for the other empty planters have come in, so these will be planted with boxwoods before the winter.

F. Membership (Judy Elwood): Judy was not in attendance this month.

3. Treasurer's Report (Celia Bernido)

- ÿ Town budget remaining as of Sept. 30, 2007: \$2,376 available for MAMSA use (balance of the \$15K allocation).
- ÿ Carroll Co. Community Foundation balance is \$13,920. The money in this account is from membership dues and fundraising activities. Of this amount, \$1,520 is in the Sandra Dion Memorial Fund.

4. Main Street Manager's Report (Kelly Ziad): Kelly noted that Main Street merchants held a meeting with Kelly and Mayor Johnson. The group is holding a meeting next Wednesday (10/24) at 9 am. The points of contact are Jen Schafer (Fire House Pottery) and Angie Nolte (Den of Antiquity).

5. Council Liaison Report (Gary Nelson): Gary recommended that a community event calendar would be beneficial to increase communication and event scheduling. Gary also asked for clarification on the purpose of the Revitalization and Emergency Fund. Dalia noted that a subcommittee of five board members has been established that will setup the application process to disburse the funds to victims of the fire. Dick read the motion that was passed at the 10/2/07 Board meeting to set up the R&E Fund. Gary stated that there has been some confusion between this fund and the pre-existing disaster relief fund. It was noted that the funds raised for the 11/17 event will be spent on victims of the fire, but the R&E fund will be an on-going fund that would enable MAMSA to have money available on short notice if needed in the future.

6. New Business/Announcements

- ÿ **November 17th Fund Raising Event at Linganore Winery:** Dalia reported that tickets are selling fast. The event will be a cocktail party that will include dinner stations and wine. MAMSA is looking for items to auction off for the event and is beginning to get corporate sponsors. The Gazette has donated advertising for the event.
- ÿ **Gray Goes Green ~** Rebecca Rush and Rick Lank of Gray Goes Green attended the meeting. Ms. Rush discussed co-ops (e.g., energy co-ops) that could be setup

that could benefit the town and local businesses during the rebuilding process. Mr. Lank announced that a representative from Allegany Power is interested in meeting in town on 10/24 to discuss options. Mr. Rush noted that there are agricultural co-ops, energy co-ops that negotiate better energy rates, and other green building opportunities.

- ÿ Mike Watson, owner of a small remodeling business, was acknowledged for his willingness to volunteer his skills to help with the setup of the temporary shops.

8. Next Meeting

November 20, 2007 (7:30 pm at Town Hall)

Meeting minutes prepared by John Cherry