



Mount Pleasant Business Association Monthly Meeting

DRAFT MPBA Meeting Notes
Wednesday, April 1, 2009
4:00 – 5:30 PM
 Haydee's Restaurant
 3120 Mount Pleasant Street, NW

Topics Discussed
<p>President Announcements-Alex Kramer, Acting President New Board of Director composition</p>
<p>MPBA Projects April Joanie Majeed: Tenth Annual Youth Arts Fair, April 29 reception Seeking attention from press/media and volunteers Gabriela Mossi: MPBA membership drive and wayfaring signage</p>
<p>Recent day-time robberies on Columbia Rd.-Sgt. J. Diggs MPD action and tips for business owners</p>
<p>Guest Presentation- Adam Hoey, President, Mt Pleasant Main Street (MPMS) Green Team and Responsible Hospitality Pilot Project Updates</p>
<p>Guest Presentation- Tarek Bolden, Ward 1 Planner, DC Office of Planning Mount Pleasant Revitalization Committee activities and April 22 public meeting</p>
<p>Additional information provided :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Deauville anniversary event of 3/12/09-MPBA participated, received special recognition -LEDC facade program to start with new contractor in a month -Report graffiti location for removal by MPBA: 202-588-5272 -Check out MPBA website: www.mtpleasantbusiness.org -DCRA new general business license and fines info at 202- 442-4311 or dcra.dc.gov -DDOT illegal sidewalk use and fines info 202-673-6813 or ddot.dc.gov -Free resources for small businesses in April (handout)

Notes

Alex Kramer, elected Vice President in October, will now be President of MPBA.

Sergeant J. Diggs of the 3rd District provided the group with recent crime data and reassured the business owners that additional attention was being paid to Mt. Pleasant after the recent armed robberies on Columbia Road. Officers for Mt. Pleasant are Kurtz, Jevic, and Henderson. She can be contacted at (202) 673-6815 or jurithia.diggs@dc.gov . She covers the 7:30PM to 4AM shift.

Business owners expressed concern with shoplifters in Mt. Pleasant. Crime prevention tips for business owners were discussed and posted on the MPBA website.

Jeff Logan and Barbara Cameron want to organize a “Side Walk” sale in May and will be looking into regulations and seek participation.



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A membership drive letter and business information form were finalized but volunteers are needed to help deliver letters door-to-door and request membership dues. Two visits per business are usually needed. Jeff Logan, Jean Lujan and Joanie Majeed are interested in volunteering but will either be on travel or busy with the Youth Arts Fair. Director Gabriela Mossi will do as much prep work as possible which includes continuing to update the business directory.

Adam Hoey of Mount Pleasant Main Street (MPMS) updated the group on their activities. MPMS received a grant to fund a small Green Team that will clean Mt. Pleasant Street and Lamont Park five days a week. The team, usually unemployed males, are trained and supervised by the Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Collaborative. They will soon have uniforms and name tags. The Green Team can perform extra tasks for additional fees such as mulching, salting ice, planting flowers in Lamont Park.

MPMS is also planning to pay for professional “gum busting” of some of the sidewalks. Cleaning all of Mt. Pleasant St. would cost over \$10k (\$200-\$400/storefront) so they will cover a “demonstration block” and seek additional funding from partners if there is interest in doing the entire street. MPBA began this project last year and the contractor was able to complete the Park and part of Mt. Pleasant Street and Lamont. The contractor underestimated the difficulty of the work and was not able to finish.

Main Street is also coordinating the implementation of the Responsible Hospitality Program, a national model process created by the Responsible Hospitality Institute. This type of program was also held with stakeholders in the 9th and U St. and 14th and U St. commercial corridors, as well as around the country. The orientation meeting and roundtables will take place between April and June. He encouraged participation by business owners in the process as it will help improve the business climate, business relationships with DC regulatory agencies and contribute to the Office of Planning effort (see below).

Gregg Edwards made several announcements on behalf of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC). On April 7 (?), the ANC will hold a public meeting to discuss topics such as the possible Small Area Plan for Mt. Pleasant, updates on Fiesta DC, the Library redesign process, and Don Juan’s sidewalk café plan and appeal of his Entertainment License. The ANC will also provide information to recipients of their Small Grants Program on April 15.

Tarek Bolden of the Office of Planning announced the upcoming April 22 public meeting on the revitalization of Mt. Pleasant Street. The 5-month process can lead to a Small Area Plan for the area. SAPs are approved by the DC Council. If approved in September, city funds would be budgeted for Mt. Pleasant Street’s development. Bolden emphasized the importance of wide participation in the meetings so all points of view can be included, particularly business owners. Visit www.mtplesantbusiness.org for more information on the process and its potential benefits.