

**BETTER HOMETOWN BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Meeting Minutes: August 17, 2011**

**Directors Present:** Jim Glass, Judy Malins, Beth Martin, Monty Parks, Dick Smith, Peggy Stone, Patricia Miller Wann, John Yarbrough

**Directors Absent:** Stephen Palmer, Shirley Sessions

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Monty.

**Welcome**

Monty welcomed everyone. Chantel introduced Jim Glass as a new board member. Jim has been active in the Tybee Island Information Provider program and Better Hometown activities such as Third Thursdays on Tybee. He is a member of Tybee Beautification Association and Tybee Island Historical Society.

**Guests**

Jim Riley and Samantha Claar presented a concept to increase Tybee's visibility as an art destination. Jim commented that demonstrations or the like could be done during Third Thursdays on Tybee and artists could sell their items if they purchase a vendor space. A portion of the vendor space fee could go towards Better Hometown to use at the Board's discretion. Discussion ensued regarding guidelines, how it would work so as not to compete with existing art galleries / brick and motor businesses and how it would tie with the Promotions Committee. John expressed interest in the possibilities. Beth mentioned the Atlanta art festivals which are juried. Patricia suggested a written proposal be provided with details addressing the discussion topics. She reiterated that BHT is part of the city and needs to adhere to our mission and standards. Patricia asked Jim and Samantha if this would be under the Arts Association. They confirmed it would not because it would be open to all local artists. Patricia made a motion that a written proposal for their concept of artist inclusion during Third Thursdays on Tybee be provided to the board for consideration in order to proceed. John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Polak was unable to attend the meeting to present the information he sent Chantel regarding potential signage for residential neighborhoods so that people would know they are entering a residential area. Chantel reviewed his concept and commented that the Tybee Island Historic Preservation Commission is discussing signage for National Historic Districts. Peggy suggested the signage could be done with collaboration from the Savannah Historic Foundation. Patricia commented that this would also need to be in a written proposal form for the board to review. She will send Chantel a form for future use by guests wishing involvement from the Better Hometown Program.

**Approval of Minutes**

Dick made a motion to approve the June 15, 2011 Better Hometown Board of Directors meeting minutes. Patricia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Committee Reviews**

### ***Organization: Board makeup***

Chantel reviewed the BHT By-laws in terms of absenteeism and representation of the board. She expressed gratitude to all of the Directors and asked for confirmation of everyone's commitment. Brooke Purdy with The Savannah Bank applied to serve and Maria Lancaster with Friends of Tybee Theater has expressed an interest. The Directors present expressed their commitment and appreciate the interest of Brooke and Maria.

### ***Organization: Signage during Historic Butler Median construction***

Chantel reported that some businesses have conveyed concern about a drop in business during the Historic Butler Median construction project, that is said to begin mid October. Monty stated he will request to be on the City Council agenda as the Chairman of Better Hometown to ask Council to have proper signage regarding detours and notifying people that the businesses are open during construction.

### ***Promotions: Memorial Park – Community Day (October 23)***

Discussion ensued among the Directors regarding hosting a Community Day on October 23 with bands, food and events for children at Memorial Park. All agreed that BHT does not have the budget or the time necessary to spend on the event right now. All agreed that BHT will start planning such an event for next year on October 21.

### ***Promotions: Tybee for the Holidays***

Chantel received a letter expressing disapproval of the name change from Tybee Island Holiday Celebration Parade to Tybee Island Christmas Parade which she read to the Directors.

Chantel updated the Directors about the lack of funding for a stage for the dancers to use during Lights on for Tybee. She is currently working with the City for alternatives.

### ***Design: Keep Tybee Tidy***

Chantel reiterated that the DNR – Coastal Incentives Grant she wrote was awarded.

The campaign, "Keep Tybee Tidy: Combating Litter by Land for the Sea" is a partnership between BHT and Tybee Beautification. The grant period starts October 1 for one year and BHT was awarded approximately \$31,000.

Chantel notified the Directors that the city is hosting a recycling workshop August 29 at 7pm and encouraged everyone to attend.

## **Other Business:**

None.

## **Adjourn**

Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07pm. John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.