

BMBA MINUTES
April 8, 2021 8:30am

Attendees: Tim Rubin, Michelle Bogosian, Bobbie McElroy, Karen Barton, Betty & Dave Fish, Maureen Hennessey, Carole Fenton, Robin Halpern, Chris Kovolski, Carol Smith, Carol Amplo, Dick Cuff, Emma Allinson Rubin, Scott Zelov, Tom Manley, Charlie Grafman

- Minutes from March were approved. Motion was made by Maureen Hennessey and seconded by Robin Halpern.
- Tim Rubin started the meeting.
- Scott Zelov reports that the mixed-use development at the corner of Bryn Mawr and Lancaster has been approved by the Commissioners. It will come back for a second round of public meetings in the future. All township libraries are now fully open. In a joint public meeting with Radnor, proposals for a traffic signal at County Line and Montrose, and traffic calming “triangles” at the intersection of Roberts and Montrose (to prevent left turns and cross traffic) were discussed. There seems to be broad community support. There is no update on the proposed billboards in Bryn Mawr on the Haverford Township side. Bars and restaurants now have fewer restrictions—there is no need for food consumption when you are in a bar. As always, businesses are responsible for cleanliness and weed removal on their sidewalks.
- Dick Cuff reports that the BMBA account has a balance of \$21,195.68 and the Bryn Mawr Day account has a balance of \$24,848.62. It was an uneventful month, with \$400 received in dues, and \$300 paid to the accountants.
- Maureen Hennessey reports that the number of COVID cases in the system has started to go back up. There are currently 12 positive cases at BMH. There is some concern that we’re headed for a fourth spike. There have been many changes made to the vaccine rollout over the past month, as more vaccines have been made available across the state. As of April 19, all adults in PA will be eligible to be vaccinated. Main Line Health plans to follow the state’s patterns. Details are pending, but a public-facing registration process will be available by April 19. The H Building is in the process of coming down, to be replaced with green space.
- Robin Halpern raised the possibility of the vaccine passport. What will the comfort level be (masks, access, etc.) moving forward? Anecdotally, business traffic is inconsistent. There are good days and flat days. Tim mentioned that the club has seen a consistent number of patrons starting to return. Michelle Bogosian said that the Camera Shop has also noticed an uptick. They’ve been hosting successful webinars, and survey responses suggest that patrons are still being cautious with travel and indoor activities.

- Chris Kovolski introduced himself at the start of the meeting. He oversees Government Relations and Community Affairs at Villanova. He will be liaising with the BMBA until Laura Manion's position is filled. Chris shared that Villanova's case numbers have stabilized. They remain vigilant, but they feel confident that they'll make it until the end of the semester. Protocols will remain in place for at least the rest of the semester. The hope is that fall will look more normal. There was an event at the Villas in Bryn Mawr to show the coordination between Villanova, the township, the police, etc. Commencement will be in person for students with two guests. All varsity sports are taking place this semester. They had another year of record admissions, which is a good sign for the University moving forward. Student government has started to encourage Villanova's shop small initiative. Michelle shared that she's seen the students doing an excellent job responding to University protocols. Chris agreed, and highlighted how the University was working to come up with innovative ways for students to continue to gather safely.
- Charlie Grafman reports that BMFI is reopening to the public tomorrow. Initially it will be weekends only at very limited capacity (25% per screen), and tickets must be purchased online in advance. The box office will not be open for walkup transactions. It's early, but there seems to be a good bit of initial interest.
- Michelle reports that she and Emma have been busy. Emma shared that she is trying to build a consistent schedule of social media posts and twice-monthly emails. She encouraged businesses to share highlights. She has also been working to establish a visual brand for both the BMBA and Bryn Mawr Day. A draft of the Mission statement was shared with the group. Feedback was positive.
- Michelle also reports that there has been a great initial response to Bryn Mawr Day (9/11/2021). Tent, staging, and port-a-potty rentals are all reserved. Wash stations are also being investigated. Michelle has reached out to Lisa Wilson and Wolf PAC about performers. The circus has been booked, and the library has confirmed that they're willing to provide the petting zoo again. At this point, firetruck rides will still be available. Sponsorship materials are all being rebranded. If the event is NOT able to happen, we will be able to refund sponsors or carry over funds until next year. Volunteers are needed! Membership is required in order to have space at Bryn Mawr Day.
- Carol Amplo mentioned that the PPP application process has been extended to May 31. Franklin Mint is still facilitating loans for members.
- Next meeting: Thursday, May 13

Submitted by Charlie Grafman