

MLCA Board Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday 2026-02-10, 7pm; Hosted by Ed

Attending: Joedan Hite, Cassie Kotter, John Hunter, Geneva Locke, Brian Kell, Ed Black, Chris Gibbons

Regrets: Jasmine West, Becky Rinehart, Bobby Rinehart

Meeting Minutes

- Joedan intro and why he's excited about 2026!
- Meeting with Trevor - Joedan
 - Joedan recently met Trevor Wolfson from City of Lakewood for coffee
 - This was following up from a Neighborhood Champions meeting
 - Joedan thinks Neighborhood Champions and generally working with Trevor is a good chance for MLCA to know about what is happening with neighborhood group funding by the City of Lakewood
 - Coffee meeting was about brainstorming community-city interaction
 - Joedan shared there is a grant (possibly new, or perhaps just new to MLCA) – the Neighborhood Sustainable grant – that is an opportunity for MLCA
 - There was some discussion about whether this is different from the NPP (Neighborhood Participation Program), and some discussion that the South of 6th Sustainability group will likely be pursuing grants for Balsam Pond this year
- “A Little Help” organization - Joedan
 - Mentioned by Trevor Wolfson
 - A company that enables sign up to do services for the elderly across Colorado; After a check, you are able volunteer to help those with needs
 - Joedan: good opportunity for “help a neighbor program” where this organization could be the source for matching
- Financials – Geneva
 - Three \$100 members joined near end of 2025 which helped finances
 - 99 – total members for 2025
 - Very healthy funds balance of around \$2000 after outstanding expenses paid
 - Geneva review the status of grant applications
 - John's for tree lighting – done
 - Jasmine's for picnic – in progress
 - Joedan's for Halloween – in progress
 - Newsletters – still have not paid these for 2025
 - Geneva will email the printer to request an invoice
 - Outstanding expenses

- Geneva requested that expenses be submitted soon for 2025 so that the year can be closed out.
 - Tree Lighting – Chris to submit expenses for the lights
 - End of Year Dinner – Chris for pizzas, other?
- MLCA becoming a charitable org
 - Brief discussion about potential benefits of becoming a 501(c)-3 organization, and also discussion about the challenges to do this
 - No decisions were made, and this was left as something to revisit in the future
- Holiday Lights Contest
 - It was discussed that a winner still needs to be picked for the contest
 - Board members in attendance voted on the finalists, and 115 Dover was picked as the winner.
 - Geneva will purchase \$50 Home Depot gift card for the winner
 - Ed suggested that for 2026 we set up an automated reminder email so that we don't miss this during the holidays
- Membership
 - Question – Brian – Membership Drive?
 - Discussion about potential prize raffle for those that recruit 5 members to MLCA. No decision made on this idea.
 - A membership history and the dues levels of \$20, \$35, \$50 for 2025 was provided by Joedan, Cassie, and Geneva
 - Joedan – **community buy-in** is needed
 - 1400 houses that we deliver newsletter to
 - Roughly 100 memberships is only about 7%
 - Joedan shared some ideas on how to accomplish community buy-in:
 - Same Announcements at all events, consistent message about how to support MLCA
 - Donation jar at events “have you had a chance to donate?”
 - Increased visibility – more signs, high quality
 - Geneva idea - Signs posted in parks, even if taken down
 - Cassie shared a similar idea about posting signs and not worrying that they will be taken down
 - Joedan – will talk to parks director about a bulletin board
- Sustainability Grant / Community Garden discussion
 - Brian noted that the Sustainability grant has an education component
 - Cassie – gave history and background on community garden at the school, renting of plots, etc.
 - Brian – if education is part of the program, this could be an approach for grants. Brian used to teach backpacking basics
 - Ed – flower pots around community garden / sidewalk could be a way to attract attention to the garden
- Table at Farmers' Markets?
 - MLCA booth with Children's activities? Other entertainment?

- This was briefly discussed and there was general support but no decisions were made on whether to pursue this.
- Neighborhood Watch – Joedan
 - Joedan noted that he wants to complete this program this year
 - Halloween sign-up (2nd Ave closure) was very positive for asking about interest in neighborhood
 - Cassie asked about whether we still had the email addresses from the Halloween sign-up. Chris sent Cassie the Halloween 2nd Ave list with email addresses
- Dates for 2026
 - The Board discussed and decided on the following event dates for 2026
 - Newsletter Content Deadlines – 3/3, 7/7, 10/10
 - Spring All Members Meeting – Thursday April 23
 - Garage Sale – June 5, 6, 7 (Fri, Sat, Sun)
 - Bike Ride - Saturday June 6
 - Summer Food Trucks - TBD
 - Picnic – Sunday August 30
 - Annual Meeting – Thu October 8
 - Halloween – Saturday Oct 31
 - Tree Lighting – Sunday November 29
 - Discussion related to dates:
 - 4th of July? There was discussion about whether a July 4th event would be something to consider. This could be a date for the bike ride or some other event. It was decided that the bike ride should be during the Garage Sale weekend. There will be further consideration about whether to do a July 4th event.
 - Summer Food Trucks
 - Cassie will research and share dates before newsletter
 - Cassie will research company that does the scheduling / set-up for food trucks
 - Cassie shared details about frequent cancellations of food trucks, and explained this is why she wants to pursue the company that does the scheduling / set-up.
 - O’Kane food trucks are same days – 1st Tuesdays of the month
 - Discussion about MLCA could grill – this could be a backup option to decide on later (but only if Cassie is unsuccessful)
 - Tasks related to dates:
 - Dates to be finalized at next Board meeting
 - Chris to ask church about availability for April, October dates
 - Chris to send church contact info to Joedan
 - Chris to send out dates as calendar invites
 - Coffee with a Cop – Ed to contact police and schedule a date
- Halfway Houses in Meadowlark Park

- Cedar / Balsam, Bayoud / Field, another location mentioned
 - There was discussion on this issue and the general consensus was that this is fine as an activity in our neighborhood
- Next Meeting – Review and change MLCA Mission Statement
 - The Halfway House discussion led into discussing the Mission Statement
 - Geneva shared (with respect to the Halfway House discussion) that MLCA should not involve itself in the concerns of private properties
 - Homework – everyone think about this before next meeting and create your own draft

- Civic Committee updates from John
 - \$42 Million to wireless carrier (lost lawsuit)
 - \$29 Million will come out of TABOR funds
 - Four parts of Zoning Ordinance will be a special election
 - April 7th special election
 - City Council voted that the position of the council will be to recommend a “No” vote for the special election
 - Civic Committee does not have a next meeting scheduled; waiting to see how the zoning concerns play out
 - Police Oversight Board – Advisory Committee – John shared about this from a recent Council Meeting. Unsure on what the resolution of the issue was.

- Next Board Meeting – March 10th @ John’s House