

Millvale Community Development Corporation

Active. Sustainable. Growth.

JANUARY Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 18, 2024

6:00pm The Maple Leaf 115 Sedgwick Street



1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

- a. **Board of Directors:** President - Brian Wolovich, Vice President - Abbey Nilson, Treasurer - ~~Sam McCoy Smith~~, Secretary - Dee Schlotter, Paul Bossung, Georgia English, ~~Athena Flint~~, ~~Tina Galioto~~, ~~Jaime Hahn~~, Jessica Landolina, ~~Jenny Mendak~~, ~~Maya Little~~, Melissa Mason, ~~Jackie Michalik~~, Emily Potoczny, Perry Rees, Denise Rudar, ~~Danielle Spinola~~, and ~~Janet Zipf~~.
- b. **Millvale Borough Delegate:** Mayor Brian Spoales
- c. **Speakers/Guests:** Election Officer, Tim Stokes
 - i. Josh (new Millvale resident), Zenaib,
 - ii.

3. Meeting Minutes

- a. No minutes to approve from December. Holiday party at Grist House, catering from Sprezzatura and Abeille Voyante, was a great success. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to a fun event supporting one of our great local businesses.

4. At this time, Election Officer, will take over the 2024 Election process

a. Two-Year Term Ending: 12/31/2024

- i. Georgia English
- ii. Athena Flint
- iii. Tina Galioto
- iv. Maya Guerin
- v. Jaime Hahn
- vi. Jessica Landolina
- vii. Jackie Michalik
- viii. Denise Rudar
- ix. Sam McCoy Smith
- x. Danielle Spinola
- xi. Brian Wolovich
- xii. Janet Zipf

b. Term Ended 12/31/2023; this election is for two years ending on 12/31/2025

c. Does anyone on the list below wish to step back from their seat prior to their term ending next year?

- i. Paul Bossung
- ii. Melissa Mason
- iii. Jenny Mendak
- iv. Abbey Nilson

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- v. Emily Potoczny
- vi. Perry Rees
- vii. Dee Schlotter

d. Meeting members used the ballot to vote for directors to fill the seats of the term that has just ended in Section a. If any Directors are resigning from Section B, we will vote for those additional seats on the ballot as well. Once completed, the Election Officer collected and tallied the votes.

e. 2023 Officers Election

i. All 2024 Directors were nominated and votes were counted. Below are the are the Officer roles results:

- 1. President
 - i. Brian Wolovich
- 2. Vice President
 - i. Abbey Nilson
- 3. Secretary
 - i. Dee Schlotter
- 4. Treasurer
 - ii. Sam McCoy Smith

5. Board Fundraising and Volunteer Opportunities

- a. [Solar Super Bowl Block Poll](#)
- b. Refugee Housing Preparations at 609 Fremont St on Sunday, Jan 21 from 10-1
- c. Music Festival seeking volunteers

6. Playground Update

- a. Name and Sign for the Playground Community Feedback - Name and Design ideas by Shaler Area High School Sustainability Students. Feedback can be submitted on paper copies at this meeting or electronically here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-dxrobPFagczEeEbKtaTZHwLa8oAtL-HfWCM90HAPHIckDg/viewform>

Please feel free to share this link within the community!

- b. Upcoming volunteer days - reach out any time you're available or interested to help on your own schedule - we can definitely use the help
 - i. Currently Scheduled - April 6 with Pitt and April 20 for Earth Day
 - ii. Scheduling spring paving with Jackie and Borough

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7. Reports and Updates

a. Millvale Music Festival Council Report- Paul, Melissa and Perry

- i. Account Balance: \$3,481.06
- ii. May 17 and 18, 2024 - Millvale Music Fest!
- iii. Still accepting submissions, spread the word
- iv. Working on sponsorships now with a goal of increasing sponsorships by \$35,000; Seeking help with sponsorship recruitment, changing the structure; Seeking volunteers.
- v. Emily to discuss an application to the [Cand'Aid Crush It Crusade](#) for Recycling and Composting equipment (ClearStreams) to be used at any MCDC-affiliated events, including the Millvale Music Festival
 1. As of now, Emily is planning to request the minimum amount bolded on the attached spreadsheet (20 ClearStream containers, signs and bags for \$2186), which will give us an additional 800 gallons of compost and recycling (and up to 200 gallons trash) capacity at 10 Zero Waste Stations at future events.
 2. Emily would love to work on developing the recycling program with the library or the Millvale Street Stewards group, or maybe even work with the Borough Works guys or other interested parties to grow & train a volunteer base so the equipment can be put to good use at more events.
 3. Emily will provide more context on the grant itself, and the two other potential requests- it's a group I worked with before at PRC and for simplicity's sake, it might be best just to request one-time equipment rather than any consumable items (the cups) or hauling. Nonetheless, they've given funding to those kinds of things in the past, too! Go Emily!
- vi. Submissions for musical, comedy and spoken word artists close this month. Visual arts and volunteer applications will extend further into the spring.
- vii. Planning meetings will be _____, contact Melissa or Paul if you are interested in attending meetings.

b. Gardens of Millvale Council Report - Maya and Denise

- i. Account Balance: \$22,668.87
- ii. Cleaning up, composting, and working on hoop house
- iii. Preparation for 2024 season is underway including orchard stewards
- iv. Seed Swap February 24th in partnership with MCL

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c. Property Development Council Report - Brian, Jaime, +

- i. Account Balance: \$159,544.18
- ii. 524 Grant Avenue
 - 1. Millvale Market - January 27th, Celebrating First Year in Operations
 - 2. Solar Roof Super Bowl Block Pool
- iii. 216 North Avenue - Phase One Bid Results and Bridgeway Capital Grant
- iv. Residential: 609 Fremont and 1134 North Updates
- v. [Triboro Ecohousing Futures - Community Survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmwzXefbxAjBGBBS9XCC1VRqj7SujkYy5UfDILYJZaWog9zw/viewform?usp=sf_link) - share your perspectives on housing in our community
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmwzXefbxAjBGBBS9XCC1VRqj7SujkYy5UfDILYJZaWog9zw/viewform?usp=sf_link

d. Bike and Pedestrian Committee Report - Emily and Dee (2nd Thursdays of the month at 7:00pm)

- i. Saturday, June 1 - Bike Rally
- ii. Bike/Ped Committee is seeking new membership as well as leadership. Talk to Emily if you or anyone you know may be interested.
- iii. Bike sharrows painted.
- iv. Next Meeting: Thursday, February 8th, 7 pm at the Hub - please join us if you want to be on the committee

e. PRIDE Millvale Council - Serena, Jasper, and AJ

- i. **Account Balance: \$8,183.76**
- ii. June 22, 2024 PRIDE Millvale!!
- iii. Please contact pridemillvale@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer

f. Rivertown Kidz & Refugee Project Council Report - Jenny, Perry, Melissa, Georgia and Jess

- i. Account Balance: \$513.44
- ii. 609 Fremont Street - Lumona family move in by February 1 - help is needed

g. Business Association of Millvale Committee - Jaime + Dee

- i. 2024 Discussion
- ii. Small Business Saturday - do we want to have one in July - several requests from the businesses...and, any new ideas to energize attendees?
- iii. Dee is taking the lead on revamping BAM. Is anyone else interested? Contact Dee at millvalecdc@gmail.com or speak up at the meeting

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h. Millvale EcoDistrict Update - Zainab

- i. Next MEDC meeting will be in February. Is there anything anyone would like to be shared?
 1. [MEDC Updates](#)
- ii. *EcoDistrict Website*: In the works.
 1. If you would like a project to be highlighted please reach out to Zainab Jamal
 2. Volunteer Resource:
 - a. There will be a central resource for volunteers to apply.
 - b. MEDC partners will be able to access resources to recruit and manage volunteers.
 3. Monthly Calendar
- iii. *Spring Sustainability Series*: Programming events starting in March at the Food and Energy Hub. If you are interested in collaborating, please contact Zainab Jamal or kayla@newsunrising.org
- iv. *Food*:
 1. Free Fridge: Have started to collect data to track progress and come up with an efficient plan on ways it needs to be improved.
 2. Pantry in front of Abeille Voyante: Starting to create meal kits and organize monthly packing.
 3. If you are interested in donating, this is our [GiveButter link](#).
- v. *Air*:
 1. Aiming to get Air Quality monitors back into circulation at the library.
 2. We are also troubleshooting the AQ dashboard with evolveEA to start displaying the air quality via a tv monitor in the library window again soon!
- vi. *Energy*: Currently recruiting for 40 hour solar installer certification training, \$1000 stipend for Triboro residents. Community solar projects being scheduled at 216 North and playground shed for hands-on training opportunities. Share interest form link.
<https://forms.gle/uQrFABcyTuisMYNu7>
- vii. *Equity*:
 1. Triboro EcoHousing Futures planning process kicked off, second meeting in March date TBD, encouraging people to take the community survey on affordable and resilient housing.
 2. EcoDistricts national organization joined the Partnership for Southern Equity nonprofit and released the Just Communities Protocol. This new resource has a greater focus on equity.
 3. Millvale is a federally recognized environmental justice community. NSR and RiverWise are hiring a team to launch the Justice 40 Opportunity Navigator. EJ community projects will get support

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through project development workshops and to apply for federal (and other) funding. Share website and shout out to program video.

<https://www.newsunrising.org/justice-40-opportunity-navigator/>

i. **Millvale Borough Update**

- i. Borough Council meetings are in person and open to the public at the Community Center (first workshop and second public Tuesday of the month)
- ii. Brian Spoales will remain as the delegate for MCDC.
- iii. Paul is involved with the tree committee and asked if anyone is interested in being on the committee, contact him if interested.

j. **Board of Officers Update**

- i. Budget and Finances
 1. Audit and Tax Filings
 2. General Account Balance: \$8,798.42
- ii. Special Events Insurance needs updated for 2024
 1. Please provide a list of ALL future events your Council/Committee is hosting (large or small) to the Board President ASAP to determine if they need to be added to the policy.
- iii. Grant writing
 1. All Committees and Councils are encouraged to seek out funding to support their programs. You will need to speak with the Officer connected to your Committee/Council to look into any conflicts/concerns and once approved at that level, the Directors will vote on whether to approve the application at the next monthly meeting. If you are not sure who the Officer associated with your Committee/Council is, check the agenda for their name in bold next to your Committee/Council section.

2. **Upcoming MCDC Events/Announcement**

- a. **Earth Day: Saturday, April 20**
- b. **Millvale Music Festival: Friday and Saturday, May 17 + 18**
- c. **Bike Rally: Saturday, June 1**
- d. **PRIDE Millvale: Saturday, June 22**
- e. **Small Business Saturday: Saturday, November 30, 2024**

3. **Motions**

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- a. **Motion to approve Bridgeway Capital Grant application development of 216 North Avenue project**

Motion: Perry

Second:

Tina

Vote: Carries

- b. **Motion to approve contract from Nelcon for construction work on 216 North Ave in the amount of \$703,248.00 (lowest bid) (GEDTF, Keystone Communities, and Hillman grants) pending obtaining remaining funds.**

Motion: Abbey

Second: Dee

Vote: Carries

- c. **Motion to approve application for the [Cand'Aid Crush It Crusade](#) -**

i. 20 ClearStreams

ii. \$5,087 recycling includes:

Equipment, bags for 2 years of events, 10K compostable cups, transporter and composting, ClearStreams containers, bags

Motion: Dee

Second:

Tina

Vote: Carries

4. **Next Board Workshop - Thursday, February 1 at 6:00pm at the Maple Leaf**
Next Board meeting - Thursday, February 15 at 6:00 PM at the Maple Leaf

5. **Future Agenda Items**

- a. Please email millvalecdc@gmail.com to add items to February's Agenda.

6. **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: Georgia

Second:

Jess

Vote: Carries