



The Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York

Betty Infantes, President
Jaime Sussman, Vice President

Susannah Page, Secretary

Nancy M. Donato, Treasurer

THE
MUNICIPAL BOND
WOMEN'S CLUB
OF
NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT
2015

Notice of Election of Officers

September 2014

In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York, the current Officers and Board Members serving as the Nominating Committee unanimously nominated the following members as Officers and Governors for the 2014-2015 term of office commencing September 2014.

President	Betty Infantes
Vice President	Jaime Sussman
Secretary	Susannah Page
Treasurer	Nancy Donato

Board of Governors

Laurie Cochin
Heather Grzanka
Susan Kelly
Colleen Meehan
Ivone Parra
Theresa Werner

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York was held on October 1, 2014 at Harry's Italian Downtown for a fourth year. The food was delicious, the ambience of the brick-walled dining room was warm and inviting, and as always at any Harry's venue, the service was excellent and accommodating.

We had 20 attendees at the Annual Meeting event. We enjoyed each other's company along with a great menu at Harry's Italian. It was also so nice to have some new faces mixed in as we continue to expand membership.

The Club's mission for the upcoming year is to sponsor events to maintain membership, to promote member participation in our charitable and social events, and to continue to recruit new members into the Club.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Infantes

President's Report

September 2015

Dear Members,

MBWCNY hosted our staple events this year including our Annual Dinner, Holiday Party and Valentine's Card making. We were also able to expand our activities this year to include a PaintNite event which was well received. We look forward to hearing more fresh ideas from our Board and Club members.

In addition to the Annual Meeting on October 1, 2014, the MBWC Board "met" mostly via conference calls and instant messaging/emails because of busy, conflicting schedules and in order to save expenses.

1. September 30, 2014 suggested gift for Jaime's wedding. Gift was sent in mid-October 2014
2. Annual Dinner October 1, 2014- collected \$400 from WIN raffle
3. October 7, 2014 proposed renewing our ad for the Veteran's parade newspaper and Erica Matechak membership application
4. October 8, 2014 received invoice for website design \$826.80
5. October 9, 2014 considered Officers meeting for training on the new website
6. October 12, 2014 proposed Rita Perelman membership application
7. October 19-22, 2014 coordinated with Colleen Meehan about inviting WIN and Silpada representatives to our Holiday party and price per member. Cost was \$100 per person. The Board decided to charge \$115 for members and \$125 for guests.
8. October 24, 2014 Holiday party announcement distributed
9. November 17, 2014 The Board drummed up interest in Holiday party.
10. November 18, 2014 Holiday Party at Estancia- There were 16 attendees including WIN & Silpada representatives. Alyssa Montoya and Cierra Jordan attended from WIN. Attendees donated several large bags of toiletries for "Gifts for Gals" fundraiser. Ellen Giordano and Kim Miranne attended from Silpada Jewelry. Sales totaled \$426 of which 100% was donated to WIN. Colleen Meehan presented WIN with a \$400 check raised from our raffle at the Annual Dinner.
11. November 21, 2014 Newsletter recapping our Holiday party was sent to membership including information on the Silpada Jewelry extended sale. We also had news from past President Susan Dushock's moving to Florida. Susannah Page spoke to Kimberly Lyons about a joint educational event sponsored by MBWC and North East Women in Public Finance.
12. December 1, 2014 forwarded MBWCNY Holiday party invitation to membership
13. December 8, 2014 Susannah Page and Betty Infantes joined a conference call to discuss joint educational event
14. December 30, 2014 The Board discussing dates for Valentine's Day card making event.

15. January 6, 2015 The Board continued to work on details for card making event.
16. January 16, 2015 The Board discussed PayPal fees.
17. January 21, 2015 The Valentines card making event has held. We had 16 attendees who made 144 cards. Nancy Donato brought her friend Elizabeth Andrie. A reminder email was sent to membership regarding MBCNY Bond School.
18. February 9, 2015 The Board began discussing the PaintNite event and introduced the idea of a joint event with NEWPF.
19. March 11-12, 2015 continued to organize with the Board for a date for PaintNite.
20. March 18, 2015 Invitation distributed for PaintNite at Stone Creek Bar & Lounge \$60 per person. Our cost was \$55.25 per person.
21. April 7, 2015 conference call with Vivian Altman and Kimberly Lyons of NEWPF to discuss logistics for an educational event. Tentative date was October 15th was set to be held at NYC Wagner.
22. April 17, 2015 email sent to membership recapping PaintNite. Also, emailed three attendees from National PFG including Jennifer Cronin, Jeannine Lennon and Cara Lapicola-Coad. Thanked them for attending PaintNite and encouraged them to join.
23. April 24, 2015 MBCNY 2015 Summer Outing announced and distributed to membership.
24. April 30, 2015 Susannah Page and Betty Infantes corresponded with Asha Jayaraman at NYU regarding NEWPF joint event
25. May 20, 2015 Susannah Page and Betty Infantes worked to clean up member contacts and email address failures
26. June 1, 2015 Susannah Page forwarded Wild Apricot's proposal to lock in pricing at current levels for two years. Current plan: \$25/month - \$270 per year (10% savings) New plan: \$40/month - \$432 per year 10% savings
27. June 4, 2015 forwarded MBCNY Summer Outing details to membership
28. July 6-8, 2015 The Board discussed having a Board Meeting on July 21 at 5:30pm at Naples 45 in Grand Central
29. July 15, 2015 Susannah Page proposed language for an email regarding membership dues
30. July 19, 2015 Susannah Page renewed Doteasy annual registration for domain name \$15 and web hosting \$25
31. July 21, 2015 Board Meeting at Naples. Topics discussed included new slate for 2015-16, membership dues update, upcoming events, annual report, fees related to domain and web hosting and Paypal account
32. July 22, 2015 MBWC received notification of Pat Gualtieri's passing on July 21st. Pat was a U.S. Army veteran of Vietnam who helped build a struggling New York City Veterans Day Parade into America's Parade, the largest celebration of service in America, died July 21 after a short illness. The United War Veterans Council is one of MBWC's dedicated charities. Pat was also Marlene Levi's partner of many years.
33. July 23, 2015 email to the Board summarizing topics covered at the Board meeting. Past President list discovered by Elaine Brennen and Susannah Page. The list has been added to our website. Submitted payment for Wild Apricot 2 year lock-in rate. The Board agreed on October 14th for our Annual Dinner.

34. August 3, 2015 progress update email sent to the Board. A sympathy card was sent to Marlene and a \$100 donation to UWVC from the Board; 2014 annual report posted; Wild Apricot subscription locked in; Annual dinner booked at Harry's Italian; draft email for open position for MBWC Officers and Board
35. August 11, 2015 email to membership regarding the Annual Dinner and open positions
36. Mid-August 2015 Betty Infantes coordinated with candidates for open positions
37. August 31, 2015 Announced the proposed Officer slate for 2015-2016
38. September 15, 2015 MBWCNY Newsletter #4 sent to membership covering Dues reminder; Annual Dinner; Board election

Summary of Events 2014-2015

Annual Holiday Party was held on November 19, 2014 at Estancia 460. This is a fabulous venue where we held our party in past years. Estancia is festive and fund with delicious food and the best sangria ever! The Board chose a date in late November in an effort to avoid the most hectic part of the holiday season. We hoped this would be easier for lots of attendees. Despite this effort attendance was lighter than past years at 16 partygoers. Since our group was smaller Estancia was able to give us one long table in the front room. The ambience was wonderful with candlelight and personalized service. WIN representatives Alyssa Montoya and Cierra Jordan attended. Colleen Meehan presented WIN with a \$400 check from our annual dinner raffle. Ellen Giordano and Kim Miranne of Silpada Jewelry were also in attendance. Sales of Silpada Jewelry totaled \$426 all of which was donated to WIN. We had some unexpected drama at the end of the evening when it was discovered that two partygoers switched coats! The coat bandit was discovered within a few hours and the exchange was made the next day!

Goodwill Valentines (5th Annual) was held on January 21, 2015. Marleen Levi, Betty Infantes chaired this event. A group of 16 members and guests gathered together over Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments to create 144 Valentine's Day cards for our veterans and wounded warriors. The cards were hand-delivered by Marleen and the Goodwill caravan of the United War Veterans' Council to our troops in Walter Reed National Military medical Center at Bethesda, Maryland. The cards were appreciated and admired by all who received them. The cards were carefully selected for baskets that went to wounded warriors. Special thanks to Marleen Levi for bringing this wonderful event to MBWC's attention and to Jefferies LLC for hosting this event. We enjoyed quality time with friends while contributing to a very worthwhile cause. We hope our heartfelt and handmade Valentine wishes help to brighten the day for our wounded military members and their families!

PaintNite event was held on April 17, 2015. It was a fun night of wine and painting party including a group painting lesson. We had 10 MBWC members and guests in attendance.

Stone Creek Bar and Lounge was a cozy place to enjoy the painting process and some much needed camaraderie with members and new friends. Our artistic instructor was lovely and we all had fun getting creative with our paintings. Thank you to Jaime Sussman Johnson for suggesting this event. A warm welcome was extended to our new friends at National Public Finance Guarantee Corporation including Jeannine Lennon, Jennifer Cronin and Cara Lopicola.

The 83rd Annual MBCNY Summer Outing was held on June 10-11, 2015. It was a huge success for the two day event. The club received positive feedback for its third “two day” outing. The rooftop Cocktail party was held at Monarch. Goodies included lots of passed hors d’oeuvres, personal oyster shuckers, open bar and a close up view of the Empire State Building. The Golf Outing was held at Old Oaks Country Club in Purchase, NY. The weather cooperated for the all-outdoor events and members and guests were able to catch up with old friends and network with new contacts.

Board Meeting was held on July 21, 2015. Seven officers/board members were in attendance. We enjoyed yummy pizza and discussed several items of business. The new slate for 2015-16 was discussed several Officers and two Board members expressed the desire to step down to make room for new blood. An email calling for volunteers was drafted, approved and distributed to members and guests. Heather Grzanka and Susan Kelly made themselves available for officer positions. The decision was made to combine the Annual dinner with the In/Out announcement of the new slate.

A membership dues update was given. Roughly half of membership paid 2014-15 dues. Susannah Page sent out follow up emails from our website to members who have not paid. The subject of cleaning up our distribution list was discussed. Due in part to the changing business environment there are several individuals who are no longer interested in membership or have left the Municipal business. There are also several others who are interested in maintaining membership, but are currently working in the Municipal business outside of the New York area. MBWC has typically upheld our rule regarding Municipal professionals from the New York area. Several others have retired from the business and are seeking honorary status. Susannah Page circulated the language in our constitution that deals with membership categories. It is my recommendation to adjust our rules or make certain exceptions to maintain and even boost membership in changing financial environments. This initiative will take priority during the 2015-16 term.

Heather Grzanka and Susan Kelly will approach potential candidates at JP Morgan. The club distribution list was summarized. There are 100 contacts on our list which includes members and others who have expressed interest. Susannah Page and Betty Infantes will continue to comb through this list to identify potential membership targets. The Board discussed the idea of offering an introductory fee of \$50 for new members.

There were many suggestions for events including another PaintNite, a Highline walk followed by a cash bar, another wine tasting, tour of the Tenement museum or the Museum of Finance. An educational event was also discussed. Colleen Meehan extended the offer to invite Alexandra Lebenthal to this event if we could put together a good format. MBWC officer

participation as a panelist at JP Morgan's annual women's conference, a demo of LinkedIn to help members use the application to maximize networking skills, a yoga class instructed by Donna Ciccimarro and a cocktail hour format for our Holiday party.

Details necessary for the 2013-14 annual report were finalized. We also continue to gather club information to post on our website including past annual reports and the newly discovered list of previous MBWC officers. The website subscription was also discussed. The Board voted to take advantage of two year lock-in pricing for our website vendor, Wild Apricot. The special offer is current pricing of \$25/month or \$270 per year which is a 10% savings over their new pricing of \$40/month or \$432 per year. Our domain name and web hosting was also renewed for another year at \$25 each.

Our PayPal account and related fees were also discussed. Nancy Donato, Treasurer raised concerns about PayPal's 3.2% fee on all transactions. Several ideas were raised about avoiding these fees including investigating whether fees can be waived for non-profit groups. Perhaps charge a service fee to members to recoup the fees or look into other providers like Venmo that do not charge fees or Citibank Quick Pay app where the club's account is held.

Please accept a heartfelt "Thank you" from the Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York for the generous donations received for our raffles and fundraisers. In addition to the United War Veterans' Council, gifts have been given to Women in Need. These organizations help and support people, especially women, facing what may be insurmountable challenges in their lives. All these organizations provide a source of hope and comfort in a time of need, and I'm incredibly proud of our Club's involvement.

Congratulations to our Officers and Board of Governors who have graciously offered to continue their service for 2014-2015 term. The extended tenure helped to promote continuity while our Officers adjusted to using and improving our new website, <http://mbwcnj.wildapricot.org/>

The 2014-2015 slate is included here:

President	Betty Infantes
Vice President	Jaime Sussman
Secretary	Susannah Page
Treasurer	Nancy Donato

Board of Governors

Laurie Cochin
Heather Grzanka
Susan Kelly
Colleen Meehan
Ivone Parra
Theresa Werner

Much appreciation is extended to the current slate of Officers and Board members for the commitment, support, and many hours spent tending to the goals of our mission. I am truly grateful.

Special congratulations to Jaime Sussman Johnson on her marriage to Prescott Johnson in September 2014. Jaime has been an invaluable resource to MBWC as a long time member including serving for several terms as Board member and positions on the Officer slate.

We are very sad to report the passing of Patrick L. Gualtieri on July 21, 2015 after a short illness. MBWC Officers and members were introduced to Pat through our long time member Marlene Levi. MBWC sponsors initiatives for UWVC including sponsoring an advertisement in the annual Veteran's Day Parade newspaper and the Goodwill Valentine's Caravan Event. Valentine cards handmade by MBWC members and guests are brought to wounded veterans in Walter Reed National Medical Center at Bethesda, Maryland by Marlene who serves as a Goodwill Ambassador for UWVC. Pat was a true titan of the veteran's community. The MBWC family commiserates with the United War Veterans Council family as they lost the heart and soul of their organization. Pat was a U.S. Army veteran of Vietnam who helped build a struggling New York City Veterans Day Parade into America's Parade, the largest celebration of service in America. Pat is survived by two daughters; a brother, two grandchildren and his life partner, Marlene "Molly" Levi.

As a final note, the Club was successful in adding two new members during the 2014-15 year. We welcomed Erica Matechak and Rita Perelman from UBS in October of 2014. Plans were made at the Board Meeting in July 2015 to follow up on past due fees, target new members and evaluate membership categories. As the economic environment continues to change and evolve, MBWC must look to plan and adjust accordingly to maintain membership. Please continue to reach out to the municipal bond and financial services communities to encourage membership applications, so we can continue to support each other, network effectively, and give back/pay it forward through our community service and charitable fundraising efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Infantes
President



The Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York

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Jaime Sussman, Vice President
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October 1, 2015

Please find below the records of events for the 2014/2015 Club Year.

Balance October 1, 2014			2,415.65
Event/Expense	Revenue	Expense	Balance
Bank Fees		5.00	2,410.65
Interest earned	1.86		2,412.51
Annual Dues 2014-2015	1,700.00		4,112.51
Annual Dinner at Harry's Italian	745.00	1,200.00	3,657.51
Women in Need donation from raffle proceeds	400.00	400.00	3,657.51
President's gift		150.00	3,507.51
Bonnie Tessler Designs website design services		826.80	2,680.71
Veteran's Day Parade newspaper advertisement		250.00	2,430.71
Holiday Party at Estancia 460	1,410.00	1,600.00	2,240.71
PaintNite at Stone Creek Bar & Lounge	568.20	552.50	2,256.41
Board Dinner at Naples 45		300.96	1,955.45
Wild Apricot website two year subscription fee		540.00	1,415.45
Donation to UWVC in honor of Pat Gualtieri		100.00	1,315.45
Balance on October 1, 2015			1,315.45

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Donato
Treasurer
Municipal Bond Women's Club of New York