



CHAIRMAN REPORT: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8TH NOVEMBER 2023

Dear MBTF members

Welcome to the 8th Annual General Meeting of the Forum.

The Forum was formed in 2015 with 39 members and showed a tremendous growth but due to COVID and the financial climate we have shown a drop in members from 67 in 2022 to 59 members currently in 2023. Unfortunately in the 2022 book year the Forum has written off a total amount of R 53 807.00 outstanding fees, due to members not able to pay, which spilled over from 2021.

This year a total of 12 members are still owing membership fees amounting to about R 11 000.00 and we foresee about R 10 000.00 might have to be written off for the 2023 book year.

The Forum bank account is currently on 27 October 2023 R 88 276.00 positive balance.

The MBTF is the body that represents the businesses and its interests and it's the voice, that conduit our problems, it makes the necessary noises to the relevant government departments and others parties.

We promote our member businesses in the greater Magaliesburg and surrounding areas.

We strive to work towards presenting the area as a preferred destination for local tourism and weekend visitors.

Some members of the Forum, that is in the hospitality industry, operating in and around Magaliesburg, has reported that it they are doing better this year, and they are slowly recovering from COVID but they are experiencing some challenges such as load shedding.

Magalies Rocks the Cradle:

The MAGALIES ROCK THE CRADLE objective is to attract & bring visitors to the local hospitality industry and give all businesses an opportunity to show case, promote their business over a weekend at the beginning to the peak season.

This year's MRtC created quite a buzz this year with lots of interest and awareness. The MRtC took place the last weekend in August with 40 businesses that participated. MRtC created awareness that Magalies is about an hour's drive from Johannesburg and Pretoria and we offer a diverse amount of activities. The MRtC Enjoyed a lot of Social interactions, support and sponsorship.

The economy is under pressure namely from high interest rates and high fuel costs and load shedding, but people are keen to be out of the house and the industry is showing some improvement. The Forum is always open to any suggestions/ideas on how to improve our services and how to market Magalies better and everybody is welcome to participate.

We Love Magalies Maps:

The Forum has printed 50 000 “We Love Magalies” maps this year and has less than 2 000 maps left, these maps will be distributed in the peak season.

We are planning to start up in January 2024 with the planning and marketing for new maps.

Info Centre:

The INFO Centre at Magalies Mall is up and running and a lot of visitors are stopping for information and maps.

You are here maps:

The “YOU ARE HERE MAPS” have been upgraded and replaced in their usual strategic places. The Forum is not embracing this going forward. Businesses can upgrade the Maps directly with the company.

Vision for 2024:

The various platforms of the MBTF have been looked at and worked on to make it more interesting and accessible. We will continue to look at the ways to improve.

Welcome signs:

The Forum is looking into introducing a new more appealing look of the welcoming to Magaliesburg road sign boards. This has not taken place this year, and it will be carried over to the next year. By introducing brick walls where the signs can be placed with spaces within it for local businesses for smaller advertising boards on either side of the welcoming boards. New energy will be applied to this.

Palm Trees:

The Magaliesburg town Palms trees are growing. We have planted 45 trees. We lost 2 Palm trees and there are still 15 to go. They will be planted as soon as possible as we have different options on where to plant them.

Town painting:

The painting of the town is still ongoing and needs more work to be done.

Security Camera project:

The camera system on the A.N.P.R is up and running.

This project cost was R 40 743.00 and was paid by donations from the businesses in the area and private people and not from the Forum Memberships. The Forum would like to thank all that donated to the project. The camera installed in Magalies has been instrumental on recovery of livestock and alerting stolen vehicles going through Magaliesburg

Security Stakeholder Meetings:

The Forum introduced a monthly security meeting with the Local SAPS and security companies and relevant stake holders but it was not working well and not bearing fruit but with the new Captain at SAPS Magalies we hope to start up with these meetings again in the near future.

The intention is to deal with the nyaope boys, break-ins, stealing of infrastructure to sell at the scrap yard etc.

Section 18A registration:

The Forum has registered a non-profit company and can now issue tax certificates in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax act. This means that donations to the forum will now be validated with a Section 18A tax certificate, which will benefit businesses in return.

Business Breakfast meetings:

The Forum hosted 5 breakfasts' meetings where the aim is to connect, to socialize, to promote, to inform the Magaliesburg community, business etc. One of the breakfasts we had the new Mayor Danny Thupane of Mogale City a guest speaker. The Forum honours the time attending the meetings and are looking at ways to make this breakfast events more interesting and hosting topics that is relevant to the businesses.

I thank you, the whole executive team for their time giving to the board, their efforts, the monthly meetings, some meetings until late at night, your inputs are appreciated.

A big special thank you goes to Richard, who is stepping done, for his contribution all these years.

To the MBTF members, thank you for your support we need to keep going.

Together, we are a bigger voice we can do so much more.

Together we are the Magaliesburg team! Chairperson
Luis Baptista