



Peekskill Business Improvement District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 2, 2017 @ 6PM
Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce
One South Division Street Peekskill, NY

Board Members present: Giovanni Stiefelmann, Brendon Fitzgerald, Kathie Talbot, Roya Zarrehparvar, Jim Pinto, Jeorjia Shea, and Executive Director Bill Powers. Absent: John Sharp, Frank Pugliese, Louie Lanza, Sean Kearney, Ann Scaglione. BID Members present: Mary Foster, Brian Fassett, and Sepp Spenlinhauer. Guests: Alisha Morgan of the Field Library and Daniel and Samantha Intrilligator graphic designers, representing the Peekskill Film Festival.

Mr. Powers called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Approval of May 2, 2017 Minutes. Minutes were approved with two corrections: Mr. Spenlinhauer's name and Ms. Talbot's name were misspelled. First by Jim Pinto and seconded by Giovanni, all in favor with the corrections.

Executive Director's Report:

City's Garbage Task Force – Mr. Powers indicated that the city has established a garbage task force consisting of the department heads from City Hall, the City Manager, Councilwoman and Kathleen's Tea Room Owner Vivian McKenzie, Deb Milone from the Chamber, Bill Powers and Giovanni Stiefelmann from the BID. The goal is to find solutions to the street litter issue, placement of residential and business trash in city containers, and reviewing ordinances and policies. First meeting is May 22.

Westchester County Tourism Exposition – Mr. Powers noted that he will be attending Westchester County's Tourism Exposition on May 11, 2017 in Yonkers.

New York State Grants Availability – Mr. Powers noted that there are state grants available that the BID may be eligible for, but that submitting grants must be coordinated with the city and further noted that they are time consuming. Mr. Powers asked Ms. Talbot for possible assistance. Mr. Powers stated that he was not yet aware whether the state was going to issue another round of Downtown Revitalization Grants for 2017.

Mayor's State of the City Highlights (that impact the BID) – Mr. Powers noted that the BID was included in the Mayor's State of the City as having a positive impact on business. Mr. Powers, Mr. Lanza and Mr. Kearney were singled out by the mayor as having had positive impacts on the city. Mr. Fitzgerald also attended the State of the City. The mayor proposed a parking task force to look at the building of two

new parking garages, one in Downtown and one at the Riverfront. The mayor also stated that he wanted to have the Annual New Year's Eve Ball Drop be a city-sponsored event every year.

Shuttle Funding – Mr. Powers noted that he was advised by the city manager that the Peekskill Facilities Corp approved funding for the shuttle with the request that Go Peekskill obtain data on shuttle use.

Holiday Lights Committee – Mr. Powers noted that the city wants to create a holiday lights committee soon to handle holiday lighting. Mr. Fassett and Mr. Spenlinhauer stated they would be willing to be on the committee; they mentioned they have lots of lights and decorations from a recent liquidation; they want to explore putting on an annual Winter Festival to encourage people to come to Peekskill. They will need two trailers to house the lights and decorations. Mr. Pinto suggested he may be help with trailers or locations to house them. They have a website to see their work.

Executive Director's Contract – Mr. Powers presented a resolution to extend his Executive Director's contract for 60 days to allow Mr. Sharp and the Executive Committee time to review his contract. Motion to accept, first by Ms. Talbot and seconded by Mr. Pinto, all in favor.

Peekskill Film Festival - Alisha Morgan of the Field Library and Daniel and Samantha Intriligator, graphic designers, spoke about the Peekskill Film Festival at the Paramount (press release was handed out) to be held July 28 – 30, 2017. June 1st is deadline to submit movies. Adult fees \$12.00, Students \$10.00. Christopher Fox will be shooting a video to promote the festival. There will be workshops in the morning, then movies in afternoon followed by panel discussion. Mr. Spenlinhauer mentioned that the Paramount needs to update and replace some of their marquee lights; perhaps through grants. BID will support the festival with radio ads.

BID Member Public Comment:

Peekskill Pride - Mr. Fassett and Mr. Spenlinhauer announced that they and others in the community have established Peekskill Pride representing the LGBTQ community. They have designed a Peekskill Pride Flag and decals. Since June is Pride month, they hope to have the flags flying from business that will purchase them. They have launched a Facebook page created by Carla Ray. They were trying to have a community table at the Peekskill Farmers Market but because they do not possess proper insurance they are not currently eligible to have a table. Mr. Powers suggested they find another group that can insure them properly.

Eagle Banners - Ms. Foster and Ms. Talbot questioned how the eagle banners were placed throughout the downtown. Mr. Powers stated that he was unaware of the city's intent to place banners on the downtown poles, but said he would check into it.

South Street Streetscape Project - Ms. Foster inquired about the status of the South Street streetscape project. Mr. Pinto was asked to check on the status since it was a year ago that the consultant and the city staff walked the route, making several suggestions.

Panhandling - Several members in attendance noted that there have been a number of instances of panhandling. Mr. Powers said he would forward the concern to the Police Chief.

Suspicious Activity - Several members in attendance noted suspicious activity at a specified location in Downtown. Mr. Powers said he will forward the concern to the Police Chief.

Police Presence - Several members also expressed concern about police presence in general in the daytime and at night. Mr. Powers said he will forward the concern to the Police Chief.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm, approved by Ms.Talbot, seconded by Mr. Pinto, all in favor.