



## BID Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2014

Call to order: 6:15pm

**In Attendance:** Anthony Ruggiero, Cyndi McKenzie, Amy Harte, John Sharp, Debi Milone, Jeanette Phillips, Jason Angell, Mike Welti

1. **December BID board meeting minutes-** a motion was made by Amy Harte, seconded by Ken Laudon to accept the December minutes of BID board as written. **VOTE:**

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Anthony Ruggiero		Jeanette Phillips
John Sharp		Debi Milone
Amy Harte		
Cyndi McKenzie		

**Approved**

2. **Review of monthly budget worksheets -** City Comptroller was not present to give a report on January budget finances.
3. **2014 Open Studios Project -** Maureen Winzig, President of the Peekskill Arts Alliance, was not present to give a presentation on the 2014 Open Studios Project.
4. **BID Board Elections & Annual Meeting –** Jason Angell reported that there would be two open property owners seats open in the upcoming election (Ken Laudon and Chris Bobolia’s two year terms expiring) and one commercial tenant open position (John Sharp’s two year term expiring). The Board approved the following election process timeline: Friday, January 17, 2014: Annual Meeting Notice/Call for Nominations; Monday, February 3, 2014: Nominations due/Tenant registrations due; Monday, February 10, 2014: Ballots out to BID members; Thursday, February 27, 2014: BID Annual Meeting & Board Elections (all votes deadline); and Tuesday, March 4, 2014: BID Board Officers Vote, BID Board of Directors.
5. **Farmer’s Market Reform Plan –** Jeanette Phillips gave a farmer’s market Committee report back to the BID Board that the Request for Proposal (RFP) had been discussed and approved for general distribution by the Committee. The Board approved the recommended plan to have Jason Angell publicly distribute the RFP on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> with proposals due by Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. The Committee agreed to

meet and review responses to the RFP proposal in order to have a recommendation for the BID Board at the February meeting.

6. **“Opening a Business” Downtown Guide:** Jason Angell discussed how a few BID members have approached the BID about creating a document that helps new potential business owners navigate the necessary City permits needed to open a business downtown. Jason reviewed an initial meeting with Mike Welti to outline the process with plans to meet again to ensure all steps are covered. Amy Harte agreed to make the document “user-friendly” with graphics once completed.
7. **BID Winter Holiday Campaign Re-cap:** Jason Angell reported that all three December events were a success and this year the BID (with great help of Debi Milone and the Chamber of Commerce) was able to raise \$2,500 from local sponsors to support the event. Lessons learned discussed were that rides on the carousel were fairly low compared to cost of rental (approximately 375 rides), the tree-lighting event closed streets unnecessarily and the event map should be reconsidered, that there was great family demand for the first “Santa Crawl” at local businesses, and the “Santacon Pub Crawl” continues to grow and be a success.
8. **2014 Jazz & Blues Festival** – John Sharp reviewed that in the past, the Board has expressed the desire to decrease funding for the Jazz & Blues Festival in order to free up funding for other initiatives while also ensuring the event remain a high-quality celebration of Peekskill. Jason Angell reported that a meeting would be scheduled with Red House Entertainment (the Paramount operators) to discuss taking on full production of the festival in 2014. The Board agreed that this meeting was worthwhile and requested a report back at the February meeting.
9. **Other BID Business –**
  - The Board approved renewing an ad in the annual Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce Guide (\$750 for half page).
  - A new BID member, Louie Lanza, reported that he has purchased property in the downtown district that would be perfect for a downtown-focused billboard. Current City regulations prevent public billboards downtown and it was discussed if the City should review their position on this issue. Anthony Ruggiero reported that the City has been approached about creating more permanent billboards on the Rt. 9 N/S overpasses and is looking into the issue.