

MINUTES: Peekskill BID Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2015

In Attendance: Board Members: Sunny Cover, Lou Lanza, Deb Milone, Sol Miranda, Jim Pinto, Giovanni Stiefelmann, Kathie Talbot, William Powers

Absent: Gabriel Arango Jr., Monica Flaherty, Ken Laudon, Howard Copeland

In Attendance Non-Board Members: Rich Credidio (12 Grapes Restaurant, Co-Owner) and Roya Zarrehparvar (The Coop, Owner)

Meeting Called to Order: 6:06 pm

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. Rich Credidio up dates the Board on the Jazz & Blues Festival '15 on July 25.

1. Featured article in MORE SUGAR newspaper and others, posters, radio spots, etc.

2. Chamber to be used as Green Room for Musicians and Crew.

3. Lou suggests to inquire re availability of the Stella the Trolley to provide transportation from the train station.

4. Arne and Ruben in charge of the rental of the chairs. (Possibility of Westchester Tool Rental providing chairs at a discount price in lieu of sponsorship)

5. Kacey Morabito from WHUD radio will serve as hostess/MC to welcome all.

6. Deb shared info on weather insurance. Thus far, no rain date for the festival due time and money limitations.

II. Minutes Approved by 6 members: Sunny Cover, Lou Lanza, Deb Milone, Sol Miranda, Jim Pinto and Kathie Talbot. (Giovanni arrived late.)

III. Jim Pinto reports on Phase I renovations of lighting, sidewalks and tree planting on Brown St. up to the Elks Lodge and Esther St. this Fall. Second Phase will begin in the Spring/early Summer 2016 from Second St./Division St. to South St. (up to the shoe repair store).

A. Sunny shares her concerns regarding parking for customers and debris.

B. A meeting with affected business owners to be scheduled.

IV. White Plains BID is asking for legislative support to remove BID assessments from Property Tax Caps.

V. Bill shares from the City Corp Counsel and ordinance for business owners to install video cameras.

A. Deb believes the City should take care of this. Giovanni thinks it would be beneficial but questions who should be doing this: City, BID or Businesses? Bill states it would be burdensome to business owners. Jim agrees cameras are beneficial and it's about safety; Sunny and Lou speak about wide range lens cameras that can cover a whole block or more. This would make it more affordable overall - this way, each business owner would not have to install a video camera. Lou suggests to seek sponsors for this - he would be interested.

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VI. Public Works is seeking input from the BID to identify and prioritize locations where trees need to be replaced in the fall. Our BID volunteer Beth Karson has inventoried those locations for us along with other spots where cleanup/beautification needs to be done. Beth is also going to a cleanup along Division Street prior to the Jazz and Blues with some volunteers.

VII. EXPO: BID Table or in the Info Tent at the Expo on Aug. 1 on the Riverfront. Deb suggests to have volunteers.

A. Bill will speak with Amy Hart to make some changes to the downtown Map in time for the Expo.

B. Also, Sol suggests BID Tent or Table at the Jazz & Blues in front of the Chamber.

VIII. SAFETY: Deb recommends there must be a discussion with Police Chief and the City regarding the possibility of having a gate between the Paramount and Hudson Room. It is city property. Roya added: "and/or a light post."

IX. Marketing Committee: Downtown Maps: a cartoon map is being discussed.

A. Other suggestions: fun facts about Peekskill on the brochure; bike rentals for downtown and trails; better communication with school district about positive aspects of the schools..

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.