



**Peekskill Business Improvement District  
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, December 5, 2023 6PM  
Peekskill City Hall First Floor Conference Room  
840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566**

**Present:** Pres. Cynthia Del Rosario, Roger Campos, Councilman Brian Fassett, David Kaminsky, Chuck Lesnick, Dorothy Posada, Richard Rogers, Matt Rudikoff, Treasurer Toni Tracy, Secretary Claxton.

**Absent:** Vice Pres. Ivy Fairchild, Monique Brideau.

**Audience:** Scarlett Antonia, David Abrevaya

**Call December 5, 2023 Board of Directors meeting to order** – Pres. Del Rosario called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**BID Member Public Comment** – We reserve this time so BID members have the opportunity to bring to the Board's attention concerns regarding this meeting's agenda topics. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes or less.

**Approval of November 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes** – This agenda item was rescheduled for the next meeting.

**Appointment of Election Committee** – Pres. Del Rosario appointed David Kaminsky as chairman of the 2024 Election Committee, along with members Toni Tracy, Chuck Lesnick, and Dorothy Posada. Councilman Fassett made a motion to accept the four committee members, seconded by Board Member D'Amico, all in favor, except Board Members Kaminsky, Lesnick, Posada, and Tracy abstained.

**Vacant Storefronts Project Update** – Board Member Rogers gave an update on his initiative to help find tenants for vacant storefronts in downtown. A targeted letter will be sent to key properties to gauge their interest in participating and sharing information with the BID.

**Artist Update** – Due to Board Member Brideau's absence, there was no report this month, but Exec. Dir. Powers noted that all the holiday banners are up.

**City of Peekskill Update** – Councilman Fassett gave a full report on city advancements and projects, including announcing that there is a replacement for the retiring Jan Friedman, a parade by Assumption Church on Christmas through part of the downtown, all members of the CCRB have been appointed (noting the Board Pres. Del Rosario was on the selection/candidate review committee), the City's Court judge was re-appointed for another 10 year term, and more.

**Economic Development Update** – Board Member Rudikoff gave a full report on the city's economic development efforts, including an update on Fleishmann's Pier dredging, CFA grants, the Community Hub Project, a grant for workforce housing, \$500 in additional funds for Pugsley and Monument Parks, and update on the connectivity project, and planned citizen committee meeting on the wayfinding and branding project.

**Request to give Flea Market Manager a bonus for his efforts for 2023** – Exec. Dir Powers asked the board to consider giving Beshir Zahir, the Flea Market Manager a bonus of \$1,500 based on the increased income and that the flea market has been revived. After several board members commented on how happy they are with the flea market, Board Member Kaminsky made a motion to give Mr. Zahir a bonus of \$1,500, seconded by Board Member Campos, all in favor.

**Request to authorize BID President or her designee to enter into a contract for Events to Remember to manage the 2024 Peekskill Farmers Market** – Board Member Rudikoff made a motion to authorize BID President or her designee to enter into a contract for Events to Remember to manage the 2024 Peekskill Farmers Market as written/presented with a \$1,750 increase (one extra week this year plus a small increase in personnel costs), seconded by Councilman Fassett, all in favor. There was some discussion about trying to fill open vendor spaces and Exec. Dir. Powers said he would convey that information.

**Request to authorize BID President or her designee to enter into a contract for Treasures 4 Less (Beshir Zahir) to manage the 2024 Peekskill Flea Market** - After lengthy discussion, Pres. Del Rosario made a motion to accept the contract as presented with Mr. Beshir receiving 55% of the net vendor income in 2024, up from 50% in 2023, seconded by Board Member Campos, all in favor. There was a request to create a complaint form so that vendors have an avenue to have issues addressed without involving the city. Exec. Dir. Powers stated that he will create one before the next flea market season.

**Executive Director's Report** – Exec. Dir. Powers stated that the tree lighting went very well and was representative of Peekskill's talent. He also attended the PAA's holiday boutique. He also noted that the Herald had contacted him about doing an article on the two artists and the holiday banners. Pres. Del Rosario thanked Exec. Dir Powers for his efforts revolving around the tree lighting, as did other members of the board. Board Member Rogers said it was the first time he had attended the tree lighting and said it was “superb.” Exec. Dir. Powers thanked the board members who attended the tree lighting and/or the PAA Holiday Boutique which the BID sponsored.

**BID Member Public Comment** – Scarlett Antonia invited the board to an event at the Artist Spot on December 28, 2023. Councilman Fassett stated that the PMMM pins had some design flaws and that the pins were not long enough to go through jackets.

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned, motion and second by multiple board members, all in favor.