



**Peekskill Business Improvement District
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2025
Peekskill City Hall, First Floor Conference Room
840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566**

Present: Richard Rogers, President; Dorothy Posada, Vice President; Toni Tracey, Treasurer; Deb Milone, Secretary; Board members Roger Campos; Drew Claxton; Brian Fassett; John Sharp; Matt Rudikoff; David Kaminsky; Paddy Neville; Matt Rudikoff. Board Member Chuck Lesnick arrived after the meeting started; Executive Director Bill Powers. **Absent:** David Abrevaya was excused.

Call February 4, 2025 Board of Directors meeting to order – Pres. Richard Rogers called February 4, 2025, Board of Directors meeting to order at 6pm.

BID Member Public Comment - No public comments.

Approval of January 14, 2025 BID Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – Deb Milone, Secretary – Motion by Board Member Claxton, seconded by Brian Fassett; Dorothy Posada abstained; motion passed.

City of Peekskill Update – Councilman Brian Fassett

- The city had a presentation on January 27, 2025 from Joe Thompson, the architect for a project being proposed at 400 Main Street. This is a residential project with 40-plus units proposed at the base of Main Street, where it meets Water Street.
- The city held a public hearing on a proposed local law to create the Peekskill Arts Council. People spoke in favor of the proposal, and this will be moving to resolution next week.
- City held a public hearing on proposed text amendments in the C-2 Zone – to allow for Health Clubs in the zoning code. People spoke in favor, and this will be moved to the next phase of planning. This would allow for a 24-hour gym at the Crossroads shopping plaza.
- The city held a public hearing to hear concerns regarding a special permit renewal and upgrade to the CHHOP facility at 200 N. Water Street. People spoke in favor, and this will be moved to the next phase of planning.
- City approved emergency services related to winterizing Fleishmann's Pier – removing floating docks and walk planks due to the icing of the Hudson.

- The city has entered into a professional services agreement for Logo and Branding work related to the DRI projects. The chosen firm out of the 96 that applied – was Trajectory Brands Inc. out of Toronto, Canada.
- City accepted a \$300,000 grant from the United States Department of Transportation to fund a comprehensive traffic safety action plan. There was a \$75,000 city match, and an RFP will be prepared for a qualified consultant to implement the plan. This is a city-wide strategy to improve roadway safety and construction of certain pedestrian and cyclist improvements.
- City passed a resolution in opposition to Enbridge's Project Maple concerning the proposed expansion of the Algonquin gas pipeline infrastructure, which would substantially increase the pipeline's capacity to transport fractured gas.
- City had a presentation from taxi owners as a request to raise the fares in the city. These fares have not changed for 17 years. They are looking for a \$2.00 increase in the fare inside the city and a \$1.00 increase for additional passengers. This would bring the fare to \$8.00. And bring the senior fare from \$3.00 to \$6.00. There will be a public hearing on this, not yet scheduled.
- The Peekskill St. Patrick's Committee submitted a flag-raising request and parade application for March 15, 2025. Flag Raising will take place at 10:30 am, and parade at 3pm.
- The city continues to study No Turn on Red updates throughout the city as well as options for Winter Parking.
- City will hold a public hearing on February 24th – to hear concerns or support for adding a bus loading zone at 1200 Brown Street. This will be for Los Ninos Services – a provider for young children with developmental delays and disorders, locating a program for approximately 20-30 (possibly up to 50) youth to attend the program. Building is on the corner of James and Brown Street.

Economic Development Update – Economic Development Specialist Matt Rudikoff

- Conducted an initial meeting with Trajectory Brands LLC, the new marketing firm.
- A new RFP will be done for the marketing work, a less broad approach and more focus on social media.
- Fleishmann Pier work continues to get the pier and operations ready for the 2025 season. Have received RFPs from boat operators. Emerald Princess wants to use Fleishmann Pier as their home port.

- Kitchen Incubator progress may be stalled due to the Federal money freeze.
- 41 N. Division St. – are there areas of interest to redevelop first and second floor. In discussion with Children’s Village.
- DRF second round is still available.
- On March 6 City of Peekskill will present what's happening in Peekskill at the HVGCC breakfast
- \$10 million dollar infrastructure grant is being worked on.

Executive Director's Report – Exec. Dir. Bill Powers

- Board Member Sharp and Executive Director Powers will meet with the City Manager to discuss shuttle for this season, including stops at hotels.
- Applications available this week for Farmers Market and Flea Market.
- Will be meeting with Planning and Development to continue to push for lighted signage at the garage
- Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber has merged with Yorktown Chamber.
- Bill signed the BID up for a booth at the HVGCC Spring show at the Jefferson Valley Mall on April 26, 2025.

2025 Election Committee Report – Secretary Deb Milone

- BID's 2025 Election will be conducted as follows:
- For the one commercial tenant seat, there is one candidate who met the eligibility requirements and who will appear on the ballot:

Richard Rogers, H&R Block, 1027 Park Street, Peekskill NY

- For the four open property owner seats, the following six candidates will appear on the ballot, all of whom met the eligibility requirements, and all of whom will appear on the ballot:

Roger Campos 3 North Broad Street, Peekskill, NY

Drew Claxton 201 South Division Street, Peekskill, NY

Chuck Lesnick 1132-1134 Main Street, Peekskill NY

Arne Paglia 26 North Division Street, Peekskill, NY

Hever Palacios 900 Main Street, Peekskill, NY

Emiliano Perez 1017 Park Street, Peekskill, NY

- The Artist District seat is not open this election cycle.
- Election day is Monday, March 10, 2025. BID members can drop off ballots at City Hall First Floor Conference Room between 5pm and 7pm on that date.
- Mailed ballots must be postmarked by March 10, 2025 and received by March 19, 2025.
- The date and time to conduct the ballot count is to be determined, pending the availability of our legal counsel.
- The Elections mailing is at the printer/mailing house and will be mailed shortly.

BID Member Public Comment –

- Victor Garido expressed concern over Latino business owners not knowing the BID exists. BID has canvassed the Latino businesses and has increased membership of Latino business. Executive Director Powers said that he will speak to Chereese Jervis Hill regarding doing another canvass to get more businesses to register with the BID.
- David Kaminsky asked if the business owners have seen a decrease in business or absentee workers because of the federal order. John Sharp said there is a sense of fear among employees, but they are still coming to work. Superintendent Mauricio sent a letter to all parents which was very compassionate.
- Scarlett said that at her Friday Zumba class which usually has 50 people, no one showed up last week.
- Scarlett asked if our advertising budget had been set. Bill reported that they are still working on it.
- Vice President Posada asked when the Annual meeting will be held. Answer: March 4 at 6PM at Dramatic Hall.

Adjournment – Pres. Richard Rogers - Motion by Board Member Claxton, seconded by Councilman Fassett to adjourn. Motion passed.