



**Peekskill Business Improvement District
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 7, 2025 @ 6pm
Peekskill City Hall First Floor Conference Room
840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566**

Present: Pres. Richard Rogers; Vice Pres. Roger Campos; Secretary Deb Milone; Councilman Brian Fassett; Board Members Paddy Neville; David Kaminsky; Drew Claxton; David Abrevaya; Executive Director Bill Powers.

Absent: John Sharp; Matthew Rudikoff; Toni Tracy; Chuck Lesnick

Call Tuesday October 7, 2025, Board of Directors meeting to order at 6PM – Pres. Richard Rogers called the meeting to order at 6pm.

BID Member Public Comment – There were no public comments

Drew Claxton discussed the difficulty of getting insurance for mix use/residential buildings. The board members said they would refer their insurance carriers with her.

Approval of September 9, 2025, BID Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – Secretary Deb Milone. Motion by Richard Rogers, seconded by David Abrevaya, Deb Milone and Roger Campos abstained. Motion Carried.

Artist District Report – Board Member David Abrevaya

- Good attendance at drink and draw event
- Good, but less attendance at paint and sip event
- David gave a speech at the Gold Star Memorial event and was honored by City of Mount Vernon as the artist who created the statue.
- PAA is planning a holiday Boutique/Event at Ford Piano again.
- Holiday Train show will be next year and not this year.
- In contact with Arts Westchester to get more grants.
- Board Member Abrevaya had to leave early and gave his proxy to Board Member Claxton.

City of Peekskill Report – Councilman Brian Fassett

- The City Council has passed no resolutions since our last BID Meeting.
- The Police Department and City Manager have assigned a full-time person to serve as Animal Control Officer – named Patrick Wisker.

- Common Council honored six people with proclamations to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.
- Started departmental Budget Presentations: Finance Capital Plan, Debt and Fee Schedule, Building Department, Human Resources, Nutrition/Recreation Department.
- Oct 7 is the Budget Presentation from Fire Department and Section 8.
- The Council received an update on the Waterfront TOD Cumulative Environmental Impact Report Final Scope Outline, which will be used to assess the impacts of the three projects, as well as street planning and other related aspects. This is on hold until the council makes further progress with the developers.
- The Council received a Logo and Branding update – 400 people took the survey – and the planning department and Trajectory are regrouping for next steps. No single logo stood out.
- The Council received an update on our new Payment-in-Lieu-of-Parking program. The public hearing will continue on Oct 14.
- The Council discussed and will approve an event for the Centennial Celebration of the Lincoln Excedra on Oct 25. Two events will take place: one at the Excedra and another at the Lincoln Museum. They also plan to bury a time capsule.
- Budget meetings resume tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. and will continue through the end of the month. Encourage to watch the departmental presentations; there is a lot of information in there about the hows and whys of the upcoming budget approval.

Economic Development Report – Economic Development Specialist Matt Rudikoff

Exec. Dir. Powers provided by Board Member Rudikoff who was not present.

- Fleischmann Pier Fall Foliage Cruises starting this weekend by RMS *Emerald Princess* and NY Boat's *Nellie Bly* and *Evening Star*; and Channel 12 "Road Trips Close to Home" spot being shot for Fleischmann Pier.
- Logo – new design work being done to be presented to City Staff this week
- Work on a West Point Marketing Pamphlet to be used at West Point Visitor's Center Pamphlet Rack is underway and reaching out to West Point Facebook and website related pages.
- City-wide City Business Data Base being finalized and readied for first survey questions to be sent by City Manager in preparation for planning Destination Peekskill material and Peekskill Business Council discussions.
- PIDA/PFDC – Peekskill Fire House Incubator Project bids opened and results being reviewed; PIDA is working with Council on the 901 Main Street sale, rehab and PILOT Application; and on future PILOT policies and PIDA Application Form.
- Public Art Trail Map placement and deployment of new signs complete

- Wayfinding signage installation begun.

Social Media Committee Report – Pres. Richard Rogers

- The BID posted 19 reels/posts promoting weekly events downtown to create the impression that there was a lot to do downtown. Posts focused on farmers market, flea market, music, and shuttle service.
- Bill shared 42 social media posts from downtown businesses, the city of Peekskill and others in September on the BID Facebook page.
- Noticeable upticks in reels and social media from the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, the Paramount, and the Exurbanist.
- Conducted in-person interviews with three respondents to the RFP, will have more to say in executive session.
- Josh, our writer/intern has returned and wrote a new article on Mercado & Azteca Deli. And has to do an update on his Gauchos article. Bill created an ID badge for Josh. Several businesses turned down the opportunity to have an article written on them. Board Member Claxton suggested maybe doing a themed approach on businesses like wellness.

Downtown History Tour – David Kaminsky

- Good showing at the last tour. The tour was very positive. Thank you to the Peekskill Herald for the publicity. Thank you to Bill for coming along on the tour. About 20 people took the tour.
- A discussion followed on downtown garbage and the overall look of the city.
- Paddy Neville raised the following concerns: A lot of stickers and posters are on the light poles. People who put them up do not take them down, illegal drug sales and residents of Jan Peek who loiter in the downtown.
- Board member Fassett said the city is very conscious of quality-of-life concerns and the reality is we need more code enforcement. Code enforcement focuses on the more serious issues first.

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

- Peekskill Makes Me Merry logo. Board voted to accept the Candy Cane logo for this year's PMMM buttons and publicity.
- Working on tree-lighting, inviting peerformers.
- Attended Cortlandt Makers Market and RevFest 250 to see audience size and assess competition. Meeting via zoom tomorrow with RW250, the chamber and HHRT

regarding 250 activities: boat building; tavern trot in November; honoring Rifle Jack Peterson; establishing tours of Fort Hill.

- Sunday: Chamber's fall show at the JV Mall. Staffing a booth. Set up and breakdown covered. \$50 gift card giveaway. 11am to 4pm outdoors unless it rains.
- Drafted and sent letter about wrong way drivers on Division Street. Met with City Manager: Larger no turn on right signs; stripping the corner, visually pulling the corner out further; install no turn on red with flashing lights; do not block the box to the entrance of the K lot.
- Farmers market: guess the weight of the giant pumpkin on 10/25, and pumpkin painting either in Pugsley park or at the market itself. Flea Market is going fine, no complaints.

BID Member Public Comment –

- Mary Foster asked if ridership metrics are being kept on shuttle riders. Yes, city is collecting the data.
- Also asked about the BID's social media metrics. Exec. Dir. Powers said he would send the more detailed reports that we get to her.
- Drew Claxton asked if there is a map of all the art galleries and could they have monthly gallery tours.

Adjournment to go into Executive Session to discuss contracts and/or personnel matters –

Pres. Richard Rogers. Motion by Vice Pres. Campos, seconded by Secretary Milone. All in favor, motion carried

Motion to come out of exec. Motion by Vice Pres. Campos, seconded by Councilman Fassett, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion to appoint Wilson Narvaez, Jr. for the open seat on the board. Motion by Pres. Rogers, seconded by Vice Pres. Campos, motion carried.

Motion to enter into a contract with Enormous Creative at \$2,000 a month for one year subject to the approval by our attorney. Motion by Pres. Rogers, seconded by Vice Pres. Campos, all in favor, including Abrevaya's proxy, all in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm, Motion by Board Member Kaminsky, seconded by Vice Pres. Campos, all in favor, motion carried.