Peekskill Business Improvement District
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 2 2026 @ 6pm
Peekskill City Hall First Floor Conference Room
840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566

Present: Pres. Richard Rogers; Vice President Roger Campos; Secretary Deb Milone; Toni Tracey, Treasurer; Board members Councilman Brian Fassett; Ram Bathija; Paddy Neville; David Abrevaya; Chuck Lesnick; Matthew Rudikoff; Executive Director Bill Powers.

Excused: Marcel Dumnici; Drew Claxton; Wilson Narvaez, Jr.

Call June 2, 2026 Board of Directors meeting to order – Pres. Richard Rogers called meeting to order at 6pm.

Guests: Peekskill Police Chief Adam Renwick and Downtown Peekskill Police Officer Gary Jackman - Meet & Greet and Q&A

- Chief Renwick gave a description of his police experience and introduced Officer Jackman.
- During the summer additional officers will be out on walking posts in the downtown on weekend nights.
- Plan to work closely with council on issues like e-bikes and dirt bikes and other motorized vehicles hazards and will develop local legislation to address the issue. PPD will utilize drones to assist with this to avoid police car chases (safety of pedestrians, suspects and police officers). Noted that some of the elderly in motorized wheelchairs do not follow regulations either.
- Board Member Neville brought up quality of life concerns and K lot parking issues including the suggestion to place speed bumps in the lot and enforce illegal parking. Better lighting in the Nelson Avenue garage and Birdsall and K lots would help. Board Member Neville will send photos to the chief about his concerns. The chief responded to Board Member Neville with how the PPD are already handling the QOL issues.
- PPD is also looking into redlight cameras to assist with double parking issues. If anyone sees illegal parking they can call the department's non-emergency number.
- BID Member Arne Paglia brought up some suggestions on parking which the chief was receptive to and expressed concern about giving tickets to illegally parked cars because it may negatively impact business.

- Chief will consider making some spaces on Park Street 15 minutes. Officer Jackman noted that he has to balance giving tickets whether to give tickets or not in some cases. It was suggested that parking in the Nelson Avenue garage be reimagined.
- Officer Jackman offered to come to the monthly BID meetings if he is on duty to address any concerns brought up by the business community.

BID Member Public Comment – There were no public comments.

Approval of May Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – Secretary Deb Milone

Motion by: Brian Fassett, seconded by Roger Rogers to accept the May minutes; Board Member Neville, Vice Pres. Campos and Secretary Milone abstained. Motion carried.

Request for $550 for Enlighten Peekskill from PAA – PAA representative

Request was denied since the PAA did not inform Artist Board Rep Abrevaya of details and because they did not send one to explain the need for the funding and how it would benefit the BID since a large portion of the event is outside the BID boundaries. Plus, it was pointed out by Exec. Dir. Powers that this was a DRI initiative and it should be funded by the city; and, they had a large list of other sponsors.

City of Peekskill Update – Councilman Brian Fassett

Councilman Brian Fassett gave his city report:

- Council held a public hearing on zoning text amendments for cannabis regulations. These amendments were passed as local law number 2 on May 26, tightening the locations where dispensaries and consumption sites would be allowed and addressing delivery services.
- Council approved the closure of N. Division street for outdoor dining and music, May 15, 2026, through November 1, 2026, Fridays from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Saturdays from 4:00 pm to 11:00 pm, and Sundays from 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm; and in accordance with the noise ordinance, no music after 10 pm on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday after 9 pm.
- City accepted a $50,000 grant from the NY State Division of Criminal Justice to support police overtime, equipment purchases, program materials, and administrative costs associated with efforts to reduce violence, deter youth involvement in criminal activity, and strengthen police-community relationships.

- Council received a presentation from Parks and Rec regarding all summer programs and playground updates – you can view the committee of the whole meeting from May 18.
- Council received a first-quarter budget-to-actual review from our Comptroller, which was also presented at the May 18th meeting.
- Council has been in discussions with planning regarding adding amenities to the riverfront, including pontoon boat rentals, jet ski tours, kayaks, paddle boards, etc.
- Council has been working on a policy to establish a consistent, transparent process for selling surplus small lot city property.
- Council has agreed to accept a sculpture donation from MOCA, which may be placed at Brown Plaza or Library Plaza.
- The Chief of Police presented a plan to address concerns about motorized scooters and other motorized forms of transportation. Once this policy is completed, Council will move to act on legislation. This would impose age restrictions on motorized devices, require helmets, and establish a process for issuing citations and eventually impounding devices for repeat offenders.
- Council has begun reviewing the 2027 capital plan, which is available online for interested parties.
- Conversation ensued regarding the BID financially supporting weekend the shuttle again. Motion to approve ED Powers to offer to pay no more than $4,000 to support the shuttle. A meeting will be arranged with City Mgr, BID, Chamber of Commerce, and IDA to discuss this issue
- Motion by Vice Pres. Campos, seconded by Pres. Rogers, motion carried.

Economic Development Report – Economic Development Specialist Matt Rudikoff

Mr. Rudikoff gave his monthly report:

- 2026 NYS CFA NOFA Announcement (Grant making Agencies: ESD, HCR, NYSERDA, DOS, OPRHP, NYPA, DEC) by end of July.
- MNRR 'Stacation' Expo at GCT (Planning with BID)
- Waterfront / Downtown Shuttle planning mode
- 41 North Division PIDA PILOT approval Council actions pending

- Waterfront Hudson River Cruises and other activities – RMS at Fleischmann Pier and Pier Manager in operation. Trinity at Riverfront Green with a 2nd boat License Agreement being finalized the Commander 150 passenger capacity. Waterfront Working Advisory Group had a initial meeting. Pontoon Boats License Agreement approved for Fleischmann Pier. Watersports concession and center under discussion with Council
- 'Destination Peekskill' Website launch with destination marketing, sponsorship opportunities for upcoming major events including 250th
- Celebration, July 4th, World Cup, etc. Logo and tag line USPO trademarking.
- West Point Community Day, Marketing Pamphlet, WP Visitors Center and Scenic Hudson collaboration being planned to bring more Weest Point cadets, staff and visitors to Peekskill.
- Stagg Development presentation to City Council on the comprehensive plan.
- Peekskill Firehouse Kitchen Incubator Work to complete capital structure.
- Peekskill Comprehensive Plan Update for BID Board.

Guest: Peter Erwin, Assistant Director of Planning: City of Peekskill Comprehensive Plan

- The City hired a consultant to assist in the development of a master plan.
- Committee of community stakeholders will be put together to offer insight and suggestions on Economic Development opportunities.
- Focus areas will include: Land Use, Transportation and mobility, Housing, Economic Development, Sustainability and Resilience
- This will be an 18-month process
- Educational/informational sessions will be held throughout the community for community input.

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

- Attended Metro North's Staycation Event at Grand Central Station; Exec. Dir. Powers, Board Member Rudikoff, and Laura and Frank Adam from RMS Cruises staffed the booth. Lots of MTA employees and some visitors. Introduced Laura to Metro North and Westchester 250. Big attractions were the Go Cart track, the cruises, and the Paramount. BID distributed information on Farmers Market, QR Code for downtown map, and Flea Market.

- Sent Social Media Report – reels and posts on the Gazebo reconstruction doing very well. (Nearly 15,000 views).
- Attended HVGCC annual gala. Vice President Roger Campos also in attendance.
- Attended HVGCC breakfast at Cortlandt Town Hall, always good to see what our neighbors are doing.
- Esther Street Marketplace was a success in terms of bringing people downtown earlier. Going to be doing a survey of neighboring businesses to get a better idea of its impact.
- Peekskill Farmers Market opens this Saturday, June 6, 2026; ribbon cutting is at 11am. We will have our social media folks on hand, so if anyone wants to say something on camera. Let me know.
- Attended two Peekskill 250 meetings. Meeting with restoration specialist on Friday morning to discuss options to restore, repair or replace the Mile Marker on South Street in front of old Weeks Jewelers. On a separate note, a really cool item of historical significance is being returned to Peekskill soon.
- Juneteenth is scheduled for Saturday, June 20. Parade at noon, festival from 1pm to 7pm.
- PRIDE in the Park is scheduled for Saturday June 27. 2pm to 6pm. BID booth, Exec . Dir. needs help staffing.
- The BID updated our calendar listing page on our website to make it more visitor friendly. Josh has written two articles – one on Journey Allied Health (4,500 views) and one on Scarlett and the Oz Festival (yet to be released).
- Meeting tomorrow via zoom with a couple who are looking for space and guidance to open up a bulk natural foods and provisions shop downtown. The concept is community-first: bulk staples, local baked goods, and a pay-what-you-can model for staple items. Bilingual English/Spanish throughout. Going to see if they wanted to start at the Farmers Market as a vendor. Matt Rudikoff is joining me.

Artist District Report – Board Member David Abrevaya

Board Member David Abrevaya gave his report:

- **Drink & Draw** saw excellent attendance this month with over 25 patrons joining us. The event's reach is expanding across Westchester and the broader Hudson Valley. Interestingly, local attendance remains a challenge, so they are actively exploring ways to better engage Peekskill residents moving forward.
- **BID Artist Chairman - Solo Show**
  Board Member Abrevaya cordially invited the board to visit his solo show at the Bean

Runner Cafe, which will be on display starting this Thursday and continuing throughout June. Due to the upcoming Open Studios, the reception will be held later in the month. David will send a follow-up email to everyone on the BID once that date is finalized and hopes the board can attend.

- **Open Studios 2026**
  PAA is moving full steam ahead! The PAA board has everything in order to deliver an incredible event this weekend. Co-President Karen Nelson is leading the tent site operations. While they are still finalizing whether their sponsor count broke previous records; Board M ember Abrevaya is deeply proud of the businesses and organizations that stepped up. They have been highlighted extensively on the PAA social channels and featured them prominently on their newly designed printed map. This is the PAA's most aggressive promotional push yet, and David wanted to thank the BID and Enormous Creative for their invaluable work in maximizing their social media audience reach. Open Studios is a free citywide event, June 6th and 7th. The event goes both days from 12:00pm to 5:00pm.

- **Open Studios Artist Alley 2026 at the Lofts**
  Board M ember Abrevaya was the only artist living at the Lofts on Main to register this year. However, rather than leaving the space empty, David is utilizing the location to showcase new PAA artist members in the lobby. Similar to last year, they will set up tables to display their work. The lineup has actually grown from 6 to 10 artists this year.

- Board M ember Abrevaya will be hosting an artist certification workshop July 12-18. Will be held at the community room at the Lofts Main.

BID Member Public Comment –

- Scarlett Antonia asked about funding for another event beyond the Oz Festival, and asked if an organization can request funding for separate events or only one event per per year. Both Exec. Dir. Powers and Pres. Rogers stated that she can apply for additional funding in the same year.

Motion to go into Executive Session regarding legal matters and/or contracts.

- Motion by: Roger Campos, seconded by Ram Bathija, motion carried.

Motion to come out of Executive Session

- Motion by Brian Fassett, seconded by Roger Campos, motion carried.

Approval of Westchester Marketing Café increase from $110 per month for BID's website updates to $140 per month.

- Monthly fees have not been increased in fours year, per Exec. Dir. Powers.
- Motion by Chuck Lesnick, seconded, Roger Campos. All in favor.

Motion to approve Executive Director's salary increase, 5% increase retroactive to January 1, 2026, and extension of Executive Director's contract to December 31, 2026.

- Exec. Dir. Salary has not increased since 2023.
- Motion by Chuck Lesnick, seconded by Brian Fassett. Motion carried. All in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50pm

- Motion by Brian Fassett, seconded by Roger Campos. Motion carried. All in favor.