Peekskill Business Improvement District
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 @ 6pm
Peekskill City Hall First Floor Conference Room
840 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566

Present: Pres. Richard Rogers; Vice Pres. Roger Campos; Treasurer Toni Tracy; Board Members: Matthew Rudikoff; Chuck Lesnick; David Abrevaya; Paddy Neville. **Excused:** Councilman Brian Fassett; Secretary Deborah Milone; Board Members Ram Bathija, Drew Claxton; Marcel Dimnuci; **Absent:** Board Member Wilson Narvaez, Jr.

Call July 14, 2026 Board of Directors meeting to order – Pres. Richard Rogers called the meeting to order at 6pm.

BID Member Public Comment – Scarlett Antonia gave an update on the Oz Festival. It was noted the the agenda item to rescind the board's $500 sponsorship will be withdrawn.

Board Member Neville noted that with the restaurant closures, diners are now facing wait times at the other restaurant. Also expressed concern about loitering, lack of city response to loitering and other quality of life issues like having to provide video and not still photos for proof of trash violations.

Approval of June Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – In light of Secretary Deb Milone's absence, Pres. Rogers asked for a motion to approve the June Board of Director's meeting. Vice President Xampos made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Board Member Lesnick, all in favor.

Creation of BID Trash Committee – Pres. Richard Rogers asked to form a litter committee. Board Members Neville, Claxton, Bathija, Lesnick, Rudikoff and Dimnuci volunteered to be on the committee.

City of Peekskill Update – Councilman Brian Fassett was excused from tonight's meeting, and such there was no city report.

Economic Development Report – Economic Development Specialist Matt Rudikoff

- Destination Peekskill.com and Waterfront / Downtown Shuttle – Launched with info
- 2026 CFA – Grant Applications authorized
- Attending West Point Community Day, 7/29/26
- Marketing Pamphlet is now at West Point Visitors Center
- Metro North Rail Road Peekskill Day at Grand Central Station postponed due to staffing issues at Grand Central
- 41 North Division PIDA PILOT approval and Council PILOT and Host Community Impact Fee.
- Waterfront Hudson River Cruises and other activities –
    - RMS at Fleischmann Pier with Emerald Princess and Pier Manager in operation.
    - Trinity at Riverfront Green with the *Evening Star* and *Commander* in operation
    - Waterfront Working Advisory Group had an initial meeting
    - Pontoon Boats License Agreement approved for Fleischmann Pier
    - Watersports concession and center approved by Council for Riverfront Green near Boat ramp

- Logo and tag line trademarking underway.
- Peekskill Firehouse Kitchen Incubator Work to complete capital structure.
- Peekskill Comprehensive Plan Update for BID Board.

Artist District Report – Board Member/Artist Representative David Abrevaya

- **Drink & Draw**
  The series continues to grow strong with more regulars showing up each month and the word spreading nicely. Looking at new ways to improve the experience and build even more buzz. To help bring in newer/amateur artists, soon will be offering a $20 beginner's kit (tone sketchbook, charcoals, sharpener, and eraser). Starting this fall, David will also be running bi-weekly sessions that function more like classes, clothed models mid-month and nude at the end of the month.

- **Artist Certification Workshop**
  David had originally planned to run the first session mid-July, but due to a family emergency he's had to push it back to the first week of August. There's already strong interest, and he's hoping he can fill all 15 seats for the first one.

- **Vintage Market**
  During Open Studios David had the pleasure of meeting Eric and Marcus from River Outpost Brewing Company. They're doing some exciting things in the Hudson Valley. Along with a couple other artists, David was invited to table at their first event. Even though it was outside downtown, it felt like the start of something that could grow into a really nice annual tradition.

- **Artist Chairman Solo Show Reception**
  David's first-ever solo show reception is this Saturday, July 18th from 2:00pm – 5:00pm. David says the board's presence would mean the world to him.

- **Brown Plaza Mural**
  After reviewing concepts with David Kaminsky, David and his team decided to go with wood panels for the window spaces. The mural was completed on June 18th, but holding off on installation to create a bigger reveal with the newly renovated plaza. The piece, titled "Artist Paradise," celebrates visual, performance, and musical artists in scenes around Peekskill. David's assistants and David are very excited to finally share it with everyone.

- **PAA Quarterly Meeting**
  Next month we'll be holding our PAA Quarterly Meeting. We haven't locked in the exact date yet, but as soon as we do I sincerely hope many of you from the BID can attend. This will mark a full year that I've served as Co-President, and I'd love to bring a strong turnout. You will also have a chance to ask questions and build ideas with us for the coming year.

- David thanked the Board for its continued support, there's a lot of exciting momentum building in Peekskill's arts scene.

Rescind approval of $500 sponsorship for Oz Festival –

- Exec. Dir. Bill Powers removed this agenda item since we were given assurances that the Oz Festival, with changes, was going forward with multiple venues and activities over a longer time frame.

Authorize the Executive Director to sign an MOU with the city to cooperate on presenting the 2026 shuttle service –

- Exec. Dir. Bill Powers requested authorization to sign MOU with the city to cooperate on presenting the 2026 shuttle service. Motion by Board Member Neville, seconded by Vice Pres. Campos. All in favor.

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

- Conducted ribbon-cutting for 36th Annual Peekskill Farmers Market. Thanks to the board member who attended.
- Attended 26th annual PAA Open Studio Tours as did Board Members Rogers, Rudikoff, and Fassett. Attended Juneteenth Parade, as did Councilman Fassett. Took photos and videos for social media photo carousel and video reel, respectively. 2,000 views.
- Completed downtown inventory of banner locations and hardware needs in multi-day project. Sent EC to Enlighten Peekskill event to do reel. 12,000 views
- Attended and staffed information booth at PRIDE Festival. Interacted with visitors from New Rochelle, Queens, Brooklyn, and various parts of Westchester County. Took photos and videos for social media photo carousel and reel, respectively. Carousel: 2,600 views; Reel: 6,600 views
- Attended two Peekskill 250 meetings.
- Met with the young couple who wants to do the bulk items store. Nice young couple. May be able to become the winter marketplace for farmers Market vendors.
- Participated in two Peekskill Shuttle meetings. Created sponsorship packages to raise additional funds for shuttle.
- Attended Peekskill Fourth of July Parade; took photos for social media photo carousel. 2,600 views.
- Worked with Enormous Creative and Asst. Director of Development Peter Erwin on three social media posts about DRI construction social media posts. Views: 4,000
- Facilitated meeting between Historic Hudson River Towns and City of Peekskill to coordinate Music Across the the Hudson concert in September.
- Attended Peekskill Supermarket Grand Opening at Welcher Avenue Shopping Center.
- Toni and Bill signed off on the 2025 preliminary audit results.
- Met with the Peekskill Museum and Historic Restoration Contractor, generated proposal to replace damaged mile marker.
- BID rack card at Grand Central terminal outside the station masters office.
- Offered opportunity to host Peekskill Day outside station masters office in July, but was canceled because MetroNorth Police were stretched too thin from a security perspective with the Knicks and World Cup.
- June Social Media Report sent to Board.
- OK'd $250 to sponsor the Peekskill Police Departments National Night Out on August 4 @ Riverfront Green

- Planning to attend West Point Community Day at West Point on 7/29/26 with the City of Peekskill/Matt Rudikoff.

BID Member Public Comment – There were no comments.

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned, motion by by Vice Pres. Campos. Seconded by Board Member Lesnick. All in favor.