

Lark Street BID Board Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2008

Attendance: Jerry Aumand, Matt Badalucco, Maude Baum, Richard Berkley, Erin Brewer, Richard Conti, Rob Curry, Megan Daly, Jeffrey Gritsavage, Jim Linnan

Staff: Mary Spinelli, Michael Weidrich

Guest: Brigidann Rausch

The meeting commenced at 6:10 and was conducted by Jeffrey Gritsavage, Board Chair. Gritsavage asked present members to review September Minutes. Jerry Aumand moved to approve minutes. Richard Berkley seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Opening Remarks

Gritsavage noted that there had been no replacement of a Treasurer since Karen Waldron left and that the Board needed to nominate a current Board member. Erin Brewer was nominated to replace Waldron as Treasurer and also serve on the Executive Committee. Jim Linnan made a motion to approve. Megan Daly seconded and all were in favor.

Committee Reports

▪ Executive Committee

Gritsavage reported that there had been no meeting of the Executive Committee and there was only brief discussion to set the Agenda.

▪ Public Safety

Richard Conti announced the next Safety Committee meeting would be October 24th at 5:30pm.

▪ Business Retention

Richard Berkley discussed his plans to sit down with Michael and Mary to plan meetings. Also Berkley talked about meeting with RA DePrima to discuss trash and recycling. For 2009, look into LED lights with a uniform color for all businesses as well as the Kiosks in the District with brochures and maps. There was some discussion about the metal holiday arches stored with DGS.

Megan Daly suggested the BID look into applying for a Main Street Grant to help with buildings and facades.

▪ Development and Expansion

Jim Linnan reported that Data and Research was still being collected.

Special Events Update

▪ LarkFEST

Michael Weidrich reported that 2008 was the biggest LarkFEST to date and had heard all good feedback. Gritsavage stated that it was a record day according to several bars and restaurants. Erin Brewer stated that business had doubled for EB compared to last year.

Weidrich stated that the Central Ave merchants loved the expansion. Also, he mentioned the possibility of having Henry Hudson Zone for the 2009 Quadricentennial. Weidrich also reported that the City of Albany office of Special Events was very happy with how the day turned out.

Maude Baum stated that the Family Zone ran out of supplies and they had an estimated 3,500 people in that area.

Other Business

▪ Executive Directors Report

Michael Weidrich stated that the BID's cash flow problems continue due to outstanding debts and sponsorship money owed to the BID. The BID is waiting on a final Financial Report for both the Monday Night Concert Series as well as LarkFEST.

The BID will be receiving \$8,700 from the Comptroller's office.

The Halloween Party is expected to make \$8,000 for the BID.

Weidrich noted that the ALDC is expecting to receive another back rent payment this year which would be three out of four and also that there might be a possible assessment increase in 2009 due to the proposed tax increase.

Gritsavage then began the discussion of Prioritizing and Visioning for 2009. He explained that members would vote with sticky dots and those ideas with the most dots would be priorities of the BID for 2009.

At 7:50 Jim Linnan motioned to adjourn. Jerry Aumand seconded and all were in favor.