

Lark Street BID Board Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2010

Attendance: Jerry Aumand, Richard Berkley, Richard Conti, RA DePrima, Jeffrey Gritsavage, Dino Kacani, Chris Schloss, Kathy Sheehan, (Mike Sperduto), Tyler Wrightson

Staff: Mary Spinelli, Sara-Becca Smith

Guests: (Mike Sperduto)

Absent: Matt Baumgartner, Maude Baum, Rob Curry, Megan Daly, (MaryAnne Repecki)

Opening Remarks

At 6:05 Jeffrey Gritsavage called the meeting to order.

Gritsavage began with stating an intention to remove Maryanne Repecki from the Board and replace her with Mike Sperduto, a commercial renter for Ben & Jerry's due to Repecki's unavailability for six (6) consecutive months. RA DePrima made a motion to remove Repecki and replace with Sperduto, Tyler Wrightson seconded and all were in favor.

Gritsavage discussed the BID using the 'dodge ball model' of finding inexpensive, yet fun and participatory activities and events to promote the BID.

Gritsavage asked the Board to review the minutes. Jerry Aumand made a motion to approve the February Minutes, Richard Conti seconded and all were in favor.

Executive Director Report

Mary Spinelli reported that Key Bank had come in with only a \$500 Sponsorship for Champagne on the Park, rather than \$2,500 as in 2009. The Board discussed approaching other banks and also approaching Key Bank again to increase the sponsorship.

Spinelli also reported having met with Brendon Cox and Stephen Krokoff of the APD in reference to Community Policing initiatives and holding a forum for Lark St Businesses to address issues/concerns related to that.

Committee Reports

▪ Executive Committee

Gritsavage reported that a letter was submitted on behalf of the BID opposing the application for a grocery/convenient store in the 'Sun of a Beach' space.

Chris Schloss reported that an employee had been aggressively harassed at Scratch Bakery as a result of the letter/Board position.

Gritsavage also reported that he sent a letter of support on behalf of the BID for the expanse of the Historic District to include the Fort Orange Club. Gritsavage discussed the safety issues with the bull nose extension at Dana Park and the lack of public input. Richard Berkley made a motion for Richard Conti to get more info from the city and report back. Dino seconded and all were in favor.

▪ Finance Committee

Spinelli reviewed the cash flow statement for February and reported that finances were in line with the 2010 budget.

▪ **Public Safety**

Richard Conti reported that there had been six (6) arrests to date for the graffiti in the area.

Conti discussed the nuisance complaint for 67 and 105 Morris St in the Park South neighborhood. An application was being submitted to the Zoning Board to fine the two properties for general nuisance. Conti made a motion to have the BID write a letter in support of the nuisance complaint. Dino Kacani seconded, all members with the exception of Richard Berkley voted in favor. Berkley opposed the motion.

▪ **Street Maintenance & Environmental Committee**

RA Deprima reported research was being done on a bike rack grant for the district which would provide bike racks to non-profit organizations through CDTA.

Deprima also reported 2 broken tree grates at 288&292 Lark and one missing in front of Elissa Halloran's shop.

▪ **Business Retention**

Tyler Wrightson reported that the Networking event had been cancelled due to a low response.

▪ **Development Committee**

Richard Berkley reported that he and Spinelli had been reviewing Grant Opportunities.

▪ **Special Events Committee**

Jerry Aumand reported that the Special Events Committee had met and he then reviewed LarkFEST plans and issues to date.

Other Business

Jeff Gritsavage made a motion that the BID would no longer take a position on bar hours for the district. Jerry Aumand seconded; Chris Schloss, Tyler Wrightson, Mike Sperduto and RA DePrima voted in favor, Dino Kacani abstained and Richard Berkley, Richard Conti and Kathy Sheehan opposed the motion. The motion carried.

At 8:00 the meeting adjourned.