



## MBA Board Meeting Minutes, April 26, 2022

Heather Arata called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

In Attendance: Heather Arata, Sandra Baggot, Don Connolly, Tim D'Ignazio, Dave Fairman, Elizabeth Romaine, David Sibley. Michael Straw - Laura Graham attended via phone

Absent: Ed Blanchard, Ally Britton, Brittany Scharr

**Consent Agreement:** T. D'Ignazio motion to approve March Minutes and Financial Report. Approved with one abstention.

**Comments from the Chair/Retail Update** – Illadelphia All For One smokeshop opened at former O'Malley's location. Three Potato Four hoping to open by Summer. MIYAKE Sushi & Poke Bowl (19 S. Olive) had a soft opening.

First Dining Under the Stars next week, Star Wars enactors scheduled to appear for May the Fourth.

H. Arata attended plastic ban meeting – glad the proposal for \$0.10 charge has been dropped. E. Romaine will have more to report

**Comments from Vice Chair** – Report on committees. Thanks to Board for good responses. Committees will focus on Business emphasis. Interest levels sorted the proposed seats, intend to keep involvement up among members, all seats on committees do not need to be filled by Board members only - to increase community engagement and spread the workload. Each committee will have at least one Board member but member does not need to be chair. Written committee descriptions are a starting point that will change as needed and 'live & breathe'

**Treasurer's Report** – Written reports distributed. Current reports reflect a 3-month lump payment from Borough which is a one-time event to catch up for missed payments.

**Secretary's Comments** –Spring Restaurant Week – 10 participants (including notably Hill's Seafood). Expenses for the event are low so all participants are welcome.

VisitMediaPA.com home page has had events added, even if not an MBA event.

Tribute event – Cocktail reception at Towne House to honor Jesse Cline and Patrick Ward of Media Theatre. Tuesday June 7, 5:30-7:30. A portion of each ticket price will be contributed to the honorees' designated charity.

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**Executive Director Report** – Written report distributed. D. Fairman conveyed that in addition to written report, meetings were also held with Borough Manager, Public Works, Code Enforcement, Council Liaison and processing merchandise sales.

Dining Under the Stars – the LCB application process has been a challenge, the local rep for LCB is new but willing to work with us. Rep will visit tomorrow to check placards and other details. Out of 29 potential participating restaurants, so far 15 have committed, expecting 22 total.

Discussion followed about pricing, tiers, comparison to other years, etc.

No presenting (season-long) sponsor secured, but other sponsorships already exceed our goal, with other monthly spots still available. M&T Bank agreed to season-long ‘featured non-profit’ sponsor sign. Out of 22 weeks, only 4 remain un-claimed for designated NPO. Each non-profit is to provide 5 volunteers at 4:15PM for setup. Without volunteers, NPO can pay \$50 fee for tent space – same offer for Media businesses for tent space.

Rafferty Subaru sponsored ‘Performance Space’ for each week – many open dates remain, but response from schools has been good.

Help still needed for Wednesday setup – signs, kiosks, etc.

Administrative Support position – 44 applications received, 31 rejections already sent. Phone calls to 13 remaining will follow to determine interest. Hoping for June 1 start if possible.

Business District office – still pursuing location with possible Borough support. Will continue to consider options, any action would require Board approval.

Holiday Horse & Carriage – Obtained two quotes, best option is for two carriages on four nights in December with a significant discount at \$9,600. Expected sponsorships will cover the difference between ticket sales and expense. D. Sibley motion to approve expense for 2 carriages/4 nights with minimal deposit to secure the booking. Unanimous approval

**Borough Liaison** – E. Romaine reported participating in several meetings regarding plastic bag discussions, generally well-run. Resources are on Borough website. EAC is finalizing a recommendation to go to Council in June. Have been seeking feedback from businesses. EAC has listened to MBA suggestions.

**New Business** – MBA needs to submit financial statements for 2022.

M. Straw motion to adjourn; unanimous approval at 7:57 PM.

Next meeting May 24, 6:30 PM

*Prepared by David Sibley, Secretary. 5/23/2022*