



## **MBA Board Meeting Minutes, August 23, 2022**

Heather Arata called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

In Attendance: Heather Arata, Sandra Baggot, Don Connolly, Tim D'Ignazio, Dave Fairman, Elizabeth Romaine, David Sibley, Lexi Stolberg, Michael Straw

Absent: Ed Blanchard, Ally Britton, Laura Graham, Brittany Scharr

**Consent Agreement:** T. D'Ignazio motion to approve July Minutes and Financial Report. Unanimous approval.

**Comments from the Chair/Retail Update** – Home Sewn opened 8/9 offering craft, fabric and workshops. Possible ribbon cutting opportunity.

Food Drive – 13 businesses have collection boxes. Food being delivered to Media Food Bank. Promotion on social media.

Chief retirement – MBA presented 3 gift baskets contributed by Media businesses. Matthew Egan will be new Chief.

Plum Street Mall – Attended meeting regarding renovations. There will be a public meeting 9/15. Project will take 4 to 5 months, planning a Jan/Feb start. MBA has been giving advice and opinions on timing, etc.

Community Integrated Services meeting delayed, future date to be announced.

Wayfinding/points of interest signs being installed including Parking sign at Baltimore Ave garage. D. Fairman has been advocating for directional signs toward business district.

Discussion of revising MBA meeting start times – M. Straw motion for 7PM start, unanimous approval.

**Comments from Vice Chair** – Met with SB Illuminations regarding holiday decorations, discussion of options, budget, sponsorships, future ideas, etc. Plans to concentrate on Plum Street Mall, possible other ornaments, etc. – Possibility of including Veterans Square.

**Treasurer's Report** – Written reports distributed. E. Blanchard. D. Fairman and Anne Lindeman speak regularly – budget and finances in good shape and some sponsor money is still expected.

**Secretary's Comments** – Met with Results Repeat on website 'facelift' – Molly Rooney agreed to participate and added excellent input.

Fall Restaurant Week will be 11/6 – 11/12.

**Executive Director Report** – Written report distributed.

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L. Stolberg reported working on DUTS performers and NPO's, food drive campaign, Chief's gifts, setting up meetings, preparing sponsorship opportunities, online form for applications for Fall Fest vendors.

Fall Fest will be October 9, not calling it 'Food Festival'. Focus will be on borough businesses including discounts. Kid zone with bounce attractions. Discussion followed on pricing levels and safety meeting.

Update on holiday activities – Decorated tree, carriage rides, life-size snow globe, bottle shop, kettle corn, hot chocolate, NY Ball Drop, and January Ice Festival.

Ice event January 14 & 15, no street closure, organization has been secured for providing ice sculptures. MAC and Morris Brothers will provide life-size piano attraction.

**Borough Liaison** – Halloween Parade on Saturday 10/29 at 11AM. Earlier start time to encourage visitors to linger in town to shop and dine.

Annual budget process to begin soon.

Update on proposed "Small Event Committee".

Bag/straw ordinance passed, more business interaction needed going forward, especially from MBA.

Discussion of community calendar/rack card – possible December edition.

**New Business/Discussion** – D. Sibley motion to authorize up to 80 extra hours for office administrator to provide for the added workload associated with Fall Fest planning. Unanimous approval.

M. Straw asked if political exhibitors will be allowed at Fall Fest. No political, religious or social commentary exhibitors will be allowed across the board.

M. Straw motion to adjourn; unanimous approval at 8:04 PM.

Next meeting September 27, 7 PM

*Prepared by David Sibley, Secretary. 9/19/2022*