



## **MBA Board Meeting Minutes, January 25, 2022**

Frank Daly called the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:32 pm.

In Attendance: Heather Arata, Ed Blanchard, Ally Britton, Don Connolly, Frank Daly, Tim D'Ignazio, Dave Fairman, Elizabeth Romaine, David Sibley, Michael Straw.

Absent: Laura Graham, Dave Krull, Paul Maranca, Brittany Scharr

Guest: Sandra Baggott

**Consent Agreement:** E. Blanchard motion to approve December Minutes and Financial Report. Unanimous approval.

**Comments from the Chair** – Directors with terms concluding 12/31/21 (Britton, Daly, D'Ignazio, Krull, Sibley, Straw) will be reappointed except for F. Daly and D. Krull. F. Daly thanked D. Krull for his efforts in resolving financials and tech issues.

Resignation from Board received for P. Maranca. Motion by D. Sibley to accept with regret, unanimous approval.

Ad Hoc nominating committee met and determined a slate for Executive Committee for 2022 – Chair, H. Arata; Vice Chair, D. Connolly; Treasurer, E. Blanchard; Secretary, D. Sibley. Motion to nominate the slate by M. Straw, unanimous approval. Call for additional nominations – hearing none, motion by M. Straw to elect the slate, unanimous approval.

Thanks extended to F. Daly for serving as Chair and many years of service to MBA.

Discussion of 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and comparing documents from West Chester and Lancaster as examples.

**Retail update** – H. Arata reported that unfortunately, O'Malley's closed permanently in January. Expressed thanks to B. Scharr for a tribute celebration on the last day. State Street Salon closing February 1, staff joining Jean Raymonds on Providence Road. Vision Care of Media moving to new location 35 E. State St in the same block, will be removing the dark tinting from the windows. No word yet on what will fill the open space. Brick & Brew closed for renovations until Spring. Bakery very close to opening, a few approvals still needed. Scooped remodeling, to reopen February.

Discussion of Gift Card Marketplace. Larry Morrone of Media Proper reported \$6,700 of purchases in 2021. \$2,175 still unclaimed for Borough employee gift cards, 11 employees never redeemed. Consider extending the website 3 months in 2022 to give a last call for redemption. D Fairman to ask Brittany Foreman to contact all employees to notify. Suggestion to contact all participating Marketplace businesses to notify that the web page will be discontinued; refer to Larry for web services. Request invoice for 3-month extension.

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**Holiday Decorations** – Recommendation for \$5,000 expenditure to cover decorations and lights, 33% discount if ordered in February. Since it's a budgeted item, no need for a vote to approve the expense. There are other holiday expenses, but they are categorized elsewhere in the budget.

**Treasurer's Report** – Review of year-end financials, some Holiday expenses have not been posted yet but will be paid in 2022, as expected. Audit completed, noted improvements due to D. Fairman and Anne Lindemann and everyone being more involved and conscientious. T. D'Ignazio offered to help going forward as needed with budgeting/record-keeping. Final report needs to be signed and filed. D. Fairman will ask F. Daly to sign.

MBA received \$2,000 donation from Media 5-Mile Race.

**Executive Director Report** – Written report distributed. D. Fairman discussed gathering in person, will determine as possible.

Discussion of potential season-long "Presenting Sponsor" for Dining Under the Stars. Would still allow for monthly sponsorships in addition. D. Sibley motion to authorize D. Fairman to pursue the option and proceed. Unanimous approval.

Decision to table discussion of 2022 events in anticipation of new committee structures to be made soon.

**Borough Liaison** – E. Romaine introduction reviewing retail background and how career skills and experience apply to the MBA and also her seat on the Finance Committee.

Update of plastic bag ban by EAC. Draft ordinance has been prepared, including bags and plastic straws. Further discussion of cost concerns, revenue concerns and possibly working toward a designation pledge, goals, etc. to celebrate those participating rather than demeaning those who cannot. Would allow businesses to choose what they are able to do, all in the right direction – and include more businesses beyond retail and hospitality. Opinion on Borough vote in March – further discussion and on-going conversations expected.

Discussion of events formerly managed by Town Talk – Super Sundays, Arts & Crafts Festival, Halloween Parade. Plans to reimagine community events in Media, reposition and re-design. Perhaps participation from Recreation Department, Media Arts Council and/or Media-Upper Providence Free Library.

Reports that O'Malley's location will become a vape or CBD business – Borough Council does not have control over the type of business that can open in the borough.

**New Business** – Introduction of S. Baggott as potential Board Member, lifelong Media resident. Architecture business started by her father in 1976. She has worked on State Street since the 1980's. Been actively involved in local community and businesses. Also started a business of personal coaching and wellness with essential oils, so now running two businesses on State Street. Hoping to be an asset to the MBA Board.

John Reece (Scooped Ice Cream) also indicated interest in a board seat – could not attend this meeting, will attend in February.

T. D'Ignazio motion to adjourn; unanimous approval at 8:00 PM.

Next meeting February 22, 6:30 PM

*Prepared by David Sibley, Secretary. 2/18/2022*