



## **MBA Board Meeting Minutes, June 22, 2021**

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

In Attendance: Heather Arata, Ed Blanchard, Don Connolly, Frank Daly, Tim D'Ignazio, Dave Fairman, Laura Graham, Lisa Johnson, David Krull, Paul Maranka, Brittany Scharr, David Sibley, Michael Straw.

Absent: Ally Britton

**Consent Agreement:** H. Arata motion to approve May Minutes, Financial Report, Social Media Report. T. D'Ignazio second. Unanimous approval.

**Outdoor Dining** – D. Fairman commented that restaurants have been compliant in payments and number of seats. Agreement that the term 'Dining Under The Stars' (DUTS) can now be used again. D. Sibley discussed the June 29 reception honoring Zubair Khan at the Towne House 5:30-7:30. Tickets on sale via Eventbrite; volunteers needed to check in guests – H. Arata and M. Straw volunteered.

D. Sibley reported that Council approved the Mass gathering permit for a Food Truck event August 29, noon-4PM on Front Street

**Retail Perspective** – H. Arata expressed interest in highlighting socially sustainable conscientious practices among Media businesses. EAC may do that. It would be considered more effective coming from the Borough than from the MBA. D. Fairman will coordinate with the Borough and contact representatives in W. Chester who are doing it there.

H. Arata indicated that business has generally been good during DUTS nights.

**Restaurant Perspective** – P. Maranka commented that the June 21 DUTS was one of the busiest ever in his 9 years in Media. He asked about the Food Truck event and made suggestions. He is willing to meet and participate working on logistical details for the event.

**Finance** – T. D'Ignazio reviewed the balance sheet, some liability items still show up due to last years cancelled events. Anne Lindemann and Bryan Messick will work together to determine the source of food festival deposits. For some restaurants, DUTS credit from 2020 is being applied to pay for this years DUTS. Auditors are working on the audits and some adjustments for 2020/21 will be needed. D. Fairman offered to answer specific questions that arise. Discussion followed regarding borough charges each month – expenses affiliated with DUTS. Discussion of using Quickbooks to receive payments electronically. PayPal account needs attention to reactivate it.

**Executive Director** - D. Fairman presented his written report, emphasizing the Kiwanis Club expressed interest in volunteering for DUTS setup in July but not definite yet. Reviewed meetings with DCTMA and local banks. Recommendation by the Borough Solicitor that the July meeting be in-person (possible Zoom option if requested). Discussion of the need for MGP for NYE Ball Drop and other possible holiday events.

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Further discussion that there are extra spots on the street for DUTS that are potentially income-producing opportunities – discussed fees and categories of ‘vendors/exhibitors’. The Board authorized a subcommittee empowered to implement a pricing structure and guidelines, subject to July Board approval, but effective immediately. T. D’Ignazio asked if we are generating sponsor invoices, D. Fairman indicated he has been, working with A. Lindemann to do so.

Discussion of adding/revising authorized signers for WSFS Checking account. The Board needs to make an official resolution to add D. Fairman as a signer. D. Sibley made the motion – unanimous approval. Finance committee will make a recommendation at July meeting for spending limits, obtaining debit card, etc.

D. Fairman met with Parris Bradley and F. Daly to discuss the possibility of a music event this year, possibly in the Fall, to keep momentum and create promotion for 2022 as a “full-blown” event. Perhaps try 3 venues this year. Other ideas discussed about updating things and seeing what is realistic for this Fall. Any decision needs to be made by the July meeting.

**Borough Liaison** - L. Johnson reported Borough Council has approved four Mass Gathering Permits so far, indicating that things are starting to get scheduled. The events are Bible School, Super Sunday (9/19) Arts & Crafts Festival (10/3), Halloween Parade (10/30) and the Food Truck Event. Confirmed that using ‘Dining Under The Stars’ is OK since virtually all restrictions have been lifted. Comment that MBA web calendar is down. There are several Media calendars that exist but they are not consistent in their listings.

**Open Discussion** - M. Straw reported there will be a Pride Event 6/27. There will be no street closures, some officials will speak and there will be promotion for participating businesses. There may also be an October event planned. F. Daly asked about resuming the calendar rack cards, since events are now getting scheduled. H. Arata asked about a car show event and wondered about considering a Front Street location. Who coordinates the car show? Doing something this year would keep the car groups interested rather than ‘losing them’ to another location in the future. Also reminded about the Glen Providence Park concert on 7/26. Question whether we are waiting to pay bills for the Board to approve them? That could result in almost 7 weeks delay in making payments. F. Daly replied that Board approval can be after payment has been made. Finance committee will discuss and make a recommendation to the Board. D. Fairman indicated interest in calling a special meeting prior to the July Board meeting. The only topic will be to discuss the fundamental mission of the MBA and set goals. It is important for the Board to make a decision to determine our purpose and direction.

D. Krull motion to adjourn; unanimous approval at 7:55PM.

Next meeting July 27, 6:30 PM – at Media Borough Hall.

*Prepared by David Sibley, Secretary. 7/3/2021*