

BID Board Meeting Notes from July 25th, 2023 by Lauren Becht

Attendance: Derek, Sara, Marty, Ken, Glenn, John, Shelly, Pat, Shannon, Lauren, Tammy Hathaway, Tammy Schmidt, Rachael, Carrie, Brian
Excused: Peter

Meeting called to order at 8:30am by Derek

Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve by Pat, 2nd by Rachael

Treasury Reports: Glenn

Review of Profit & Loss statements emailed to Board members by Shannon on 7/21/23
Profits and expenses have risen year over year citing improvements to events, and added Cider Walk.

Motion to approve by Marty, 2nd by Rachael

Board President Update: Derek

New Board Member discussion: Kourtney has left the board and therefore an opening on the board exists. Two candidates - Akari Iburi (Iburi Photography) and Amande Lowe (Jagged Edges Salon). Vote by board for new board member, Akari had majority.

Motion for no board meetings in August or December

Approved by Pat, 2nd by Rachael

Director Updates: Shannon

Empire Access has sent a bill, but have not completed the work that is needed.
Empire Access has been the company in charge of the Downtown Wi-fi project.
Placing routers on businesses to ensure a strong signal on Main Street.

Derek and Shannon have discussed not paying the \$22,000 bill until Empire Access completes the work required. Rachael, Carrie, Pat, & other board members mentioned paying a portion to incentivize them to finish the job. Rachael suggested a motion for authorization to pay the bill when work has been completed. Conversation continued regarding concerns and questions regarding the meetings with and conduct of Empire Access. Rachael has a contact within Empire Access and will follow up with him.

Event Updates/Committee Reports: Shannon

Boxcar Derby: First Build Day being hosted Saturday July 29th in the Square 10am to 12pm.
Volunteers are needed and encouraged. 2nd Build Day August 5th. Race Day Saturday August

26th. BID businesses are encouraged to bring a tent and have a presence in the picnic on Race Day. 44 Racers are signed up and the race goes off at 8:30am. Straw donated by a local farmer.

BID purchased a hydraulic ramp for this year's event, last year's build ramp was too steep. Chris Suozzi assisted in securing funding through Genesee Gateway and BID is feeling pressured to lend the ramp to Oakfield for their event. Rachael suggested lending it to them but have Oakfield sign an agreement and have them get an insurance policy for the asset. Other ideas were renting it for a fee, or holding a deposit.

Wine walk is coming up on October 7th. No VIP, general admission only. 4-8pm. Shannon will go to the City for open container. Due to issues that arose earlier in the year with the SLA, BID must purchase all one-day liquor permits on behalf of all businesses and event, according to SLA, is not allow to take place within the walls of a business that has an existing liquor license and therefore wine would have to be served on the street outfront of business - restaurants and bars being affected mainly. A number of restaurants/bars have told Shannon that if the event cannot be brought inside that they would not be participating. BID feels strongly that having the open container permission for the event was a big success for cider walk and encourages event-goers to sip their drinks slower and takes the rush away. This year's theme is Under The Big Top

Chamber of Commerce Update: Brian

Finished golf/bocce tournament – went really well!

2023 business directory has gone out.

Next business after hours at HUNT August 17th

Ag Day coming up in September

Nominations for Chamber Awards open in November

City of Batavia Update: Rachael

Still awaiting bids for Jackson Square to come back so that project can continue in the fall. Wire issues have not yet been resolved, but the city will be taking control of cobra head light, and additional lights in the square and stage lights to add dimmer switches, leds, and more changes. \$750,000 DRI for the project and additional \$250,000 from National Grid. Reusing pavement - looking into staining the concrete. Focus on stage, lighting, and aesthetics. Potential to place moveable furniture in the square. Silos for mall, going out to bid shortly. Water line updates and sidewalk re-constructions coming to Jackson Square. Waiting for project funding for BABA regarding the Jail. Alva place updates coming within the next year. Gas lines currently being worked on Washington/Ellicott Ave corner. Opt-in cities could see legalized THC sales being allowed by the State Office of Cannabis Management and opt-in cities could see 3% sales tax revenue from the sales.

Batavia Development Corp Update: Tammy

7 downtown business applications for Consolidated Funding Applications, hoping to receive grant results by the fall. Brisbane mansion - reuse analysis taking place for insight on how best to utilize the property.

Closed on creek park property - property next to creek behind ice rink. Phase 2 sampling will begin soon to determine ground type and will then put a package together for contractors.

High-end market rate apartments are the future goal for the property. The BDC and city will be very involved and stay strong in their direction for any new developments. Zoning board will solidify the property use, and City will work to ensure that zoning states at Market Rate.

Conversation began about turning neighborhoods around ... Regarding flood zones - seeing homes in flood zones being bought for cash and turned into rental mainly affecting the southside properties. Flood insurance premiums are a deterrent to potential home buyers. Nuisance points - so many calls to law enforcement, properties will be assigned points and can receive fines. Pat discussed the creation of a landlord's group and the benefit that we could see from that.

Agreement across the board that we want to see the level of city living improve.

Meeting adjourned at 9:42am by Derek

Next meeting: September 26th, 2023 at 8:30am Location TBD