

BID Board Meeting Minutes
July 30, 2024

Call to Order: 8:31 AM

In Attendance: Tammy H., Kenny, Sara, Rachael, Brian, Zack, Gail, Akari, Pat, Shelly, Shannon, Erik and Carrie

Absent: Tammy S, Marty, Glenn, Stephanie

Zack called the meeting to order.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 2024: Pat motioned to approve minutes, Rachael seconded, all approved.

BID Director:

Shannon welcomed everyone and apologized for having to cancel last month's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Since Glen was absent, Shannon gave the update. Shannon has corrected entries in the account previously listed as "Other Expense" to provide more detail.

Jackson Square's GoArt Grant funding has not been sent out by the State yet but should arrive within the next 4 weeks.

Director Updates: Everyone commented on how beautiful the downtown looks with the flowers. The city has been dutifully watering them. Zack mentioned maybe using the planters for individual businesses to maintain that way they could "theme" them and take that off the plate of the BID. The two planters that are exposed to too much sun (in front of the Methodist Church and Ameriprise/Fieldstone. Zack asked Rachael if she could move them in front of Geico. Reminder for Shannon to send Rachael an email reminding her to have them moved.

Committee Reports: Shannon mentioned she is gearing up for the Wine Walk October 5th. The theme this year is Masquerade. She's also started working on Christmas in the City. They have some new ideas for this year.

BID Boxcar Derby is almost here and needs volunteers.

Zack came up with an idea of a "Shark Tank" type incentive plan to get people with business ideas to fill our downtown empty spaces. We discussed previous efforts to do something similar and other local programs that might help – GCC has a program. Pat said there was some

discussion years ago about a kiosk system of purchasing/renting small sheds for startups to organize out of in the mall. Erik mentioned that Livingston County has done something like this. Contact them so we don't have to reinvent the wheel. (I found this link [Dream-O-Vate Business Competition — Grow LivCo](#))

Zack was looking for volunteers to start this committee – Brian, Shannon, Gail, Marty (offered up by Zack) offered to help. Rachael recommended getting in touch with Jim Krenzick to get his input from a program that the GCEDC had during Covid.

Chamber Update: Brian said the Golf & Bocce Ball Tournament was successful and thank you to all the businesses who sponsored and participated. Brian brought up that the Chamber's business directories are available and anyone needing them can request them directly from the Chamber.

The Chamber is putting out a membership survey and please provide feedback from businesses.

Next Chamber After Hours is August 15th at Iburi Photography. In September it will be at Casper Farms on September 19th. The Ag Tour is September 18th – details coming soon.

They are also working on a Place Branding campaign to create tourism as well as a desirable place to work and live.

City Update: Rachael said there is lots of construction going on. We received more money from the state so more resurfacing projects will start in September. The City budget has passed.

She and Erik updated us on Jackson Square Wayfinding signage. There are issues with the production of them and they might not fall within the allotted budget. The furniture for Jackson Square is not done yet. There are concerns about its maintenance.

Rachael mentioned the City is hiring a new DPW and HR manager if anyone knows someone looking for a job.

Pat asked about the status of the mall entrances. They fell behind due to some misunderstandings and work should resume in the next few days and be completed by the end of August.

Zack gave the City kudos for the handling of the police station situation.

BDC Update: Tammy discussed grant applications due this week with the State of NY.

The Hunt Building has applied for a downtown grant to add apartments to the 2nd and 3rd floors.

There was some discussion about the Creek Development project and some ongoing crime taking place between the railway and the Peace Garden. Tammy said cameras have been installed to help the situation and Rachael said the police are aware and handling it. Zack and Pat mentioned bushhogging the land to prevent further acts but it is outside the budgets of the BDC, the city and the county, who own the land.

Last Comments: Pat mentioned that the theater will be hosting a downtown murder mystery tour September 15th where clues will be observed and discovered in downtown businesses. The plan is to grow it every year. Sounds fun!

Shannon reminded everyone that we usually don't have a meeting in August, but due to a procedure she will be having in September, she'd like to move the meeting back to August for this year and have no meeting in September.

The meeting was adjourned.