

Lark Street BID Board Meeting Minutes February 26, 2007

Attendance: Jerry Aumand, Rob Curry, John DeJohn, Mary Derwesh, Jeffrey Gritsavage, Jim Linnan, Blair Maddy, Lucia Prudencio
Excused: Maude Baum, Richard Conti, Brienne Fretto
Absent: Joe Rabito, Brad Junco
Staff: Fredd Brewer, Lindsay Cahill
Guests: Matt Montesano, APD, Sheila Rourke, AmericaWorks, Rodger Beardon, HPNA, Maura Gannon

The meeting commenced at approximately 5:38 PM.

There was a quorum present. Jim Linnan moved to accept the October 30, 2006 minutes, November 27, 2006 minutes, and January 29, 2007 minutes. John DeJohn second the motion; all present board members were in favor.

Public Comments

- Sheila Rourke, MSW explained the mission and services AmericaWorks provides for Albany County. A packet of information was handed out. The office is located at 194 Washington Ave (within the Lark Street BID boundaries). She invited any guests to come and visit their offices or to contact her with any questions.
- Rodger Beardon introduced himself to the board as President of Hudson Park Neighborhood Association. He encouraged open communication between Hudson Park Neighborhood and the Lark Street BID. Blair Maddy suggested setting up quarterly meetings between all the surrounding Neighborhood Association presidents and the Lark Street BID. Lindsay Cahill will contact the presidents of Washington Park, Park South, Center Square, and Hudson Park to set up the meeting.

Introduction of new Board Members

- Blair Maddy introduced and welcomed Mary Derwesh, from KeyBank, as the Lark Street BID's newest board member. She will fill a class C vacancy on the board.

Special Events Update

- Jim Linnan asked all board members to double their efforts in providing sponsor contact lists for 2007.
- John DeJohn stated that he will be stepping away from the sponsor solicitation for 2007 due to a conflict of interest between the sponsors and his businesses. John will still be available for support, but at this time feels it is not appropriate to be involved in the solicitation.
- Maura Gannon provided an update on all sponsor solicitation as of the board meeting. The sponsorship packages for all 4 events were passed around for all present board members to review.
- The City of Albany has waived all event permit fees and will provide insurance for all 2007 special events.

COP

- Southern Wine and Spirits are interested in donating a premiere champagne brand for the event.
- Tess Collins and Charles Kuhtic will be the honorary co-chairs for the event.
- The 2007 list of Honorees for the event include:
 - Matt Montesano, APD
 - Tess Collins, Bill Allen, Charles Kuhtic
 - Michael Weidrich, 1st Friday

AOL

- A copy of the complete logo was passed around.
- Harding and Harding gave permission for the BID to utilize their parking lot (behind Café Hollywood) as space for art demonstration during the event.
- We are still pending on a decision to close off Lark Street, from Madison Ave. to Hudson Ave. for the event.

Monday Night Concert Series Update

- Maura Gannon reported that she will be submitting the NYSCA grant for all 4 events for 2008.

Annual Meeting

- Jim Linnan proposed to hold the annual meeting at Upstate Artist Guild (UAG), 247 Lark Street. Jim will ask UAG if this would be possible.

Other Business

- To encourage more board member participation, Blair Maddy has moved the monthly board meetings to the First Thursday of every month, beginning at 5:30 pm. The next board meeting will be held Thursday, April 5th.
- John DeJohn expressed gratitude for Fredd Brewer's help and dedication to the organization during his employment. He wished him well on his future endeavors.

Us Airways/ACCVB Advertising Opportunity

- Included in the board packets are 2 different promotional opportunities for The Lark Street BID.

Rob Curry motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Linnan seconded; all present board members were in favor. The meeting went into executive session at 7:05pm.