

Lark Street BID Board Meeting Minutes October 4, 2007

Attendance: Jerry Aumand, Maude Baum, Richard Berkeley, Richard Conti, Jeff Gritsavage, Jim Linnan, Karen Waldron
Excused: Rob Curry, Lucy Prudencio
Absent: Matt Badalucco, John DeJohn, Brienne Fretto, Terrence Gorman, Dino Kacani and Bradley Junco
Staff: Joni Buccos, Michael Weidrich
Guests: Maura Gannon, Matt Montesano
The meeting commenced at approximately 5:45 PM.
Meeting was conducted by Jeff Gritsavage, President
There was not a quorum present.

Opening Remarks

- Jeff Gritsavage informed the board that tonight he wanted to discuss the budget, bylaws and standing committees. Gritsavage attended a downtown planning meeting where the point of interest was using the arts to develop downtown.

Special Events Update

- Maura Gannon spoke on the Monday Night series. City Arts grant due next week for MNCS. No quorum, but a vote of confidence was given to move forward with the application.
- Aumand brought up aggressively pursuing the Lark After Dark performance on the street after the concerts. It would be crucial to have amplified music. If the performance ends at 11 p.m. it would not fall after the noise ordinance law. Discussion followed regarding the neighborhood associations compliance with the amplified music, regulation about live music on the street and where the musicians should be spaced.
- LarkFEST wrap up: An estimated 25,000 was netted. No complaints from neighbors or business, but only compliments all around. We will continue the food court and enforce it strongly next year. There are some scheduling issues to work out for next year, but overall was a smooth and successful event.

Future Events

- A Taste of Lark, scheduled for October 23rd – 26th, will feature at least 10 neighborhood restaurants that will offer \$10.00 menus paired with 6 retailers who will offer coupons to accompany the Lark Street Neighborhood Marketing Survey. Website will be updated with involved establishments and their menus.
- First Friday this month will feature the Discard Avant Garde Preview show with the display of the Albany Print Club.
- Lark-or-treat, set for Halloween, Wednesday October 31st, will be an intra-neighborhood event 5 – 8 p.m.

2008 Budget

- Weidrich informed the board that the BID's tax assessment tripled from 24 to 77 million. If the assessment stands as accurate; the BID will be obtaining over 200,000 in revenue.
- Discussion followed as to what to do with the money; purchase of 245 Lark, improving the building, hiring a security officer, and improving neighborhood appearance and services was brought to the table.

- There was an interest in pushing for and further marketing Lark Street as the Arts District.
- The BID will have more information on the budget in November. .
- Weidrich will propose the budget at the November Board Meeting. It will be voted upon at the December meeting/holiday party.

Bylaws

- Bylaws must be presented 10 days before we vote upon the changes. Reduction of the quorum number, unexcused board absences and amending standing committees were topics of discussion.
- Richard Berkeley will email out again the Bylaws for review.

Standing Committees

- The standing committees were re-interpreted with respect to bylaws and the governance, development and finance committees. It was discussed that Governance should fall under the Executive Committee.
- Gritsavage called to form the adhoc committees and look for volunteers to chair the committees. After discussion, the ad-hoc committees will be *fundraising* as pertaining to events and grants, *business* in regards to recruitment and promotion, *quality of life and public safety* including physical improvement and *long range planning*.

Meeting closed at approximately 7:25 p.m.