

# Media Business Authority Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

*Tuesday April 8, 2014*

**In Attendance:** Bryan Messick, Jack Cunicelli, Tom Hibberd, Peter Bendistis, Zubair Khan, Deborah Shipley

**Absent:** Debbie Pitt, Warren Kuo, Loic Barnieu, Christopher Dougherty, Courtney Roszas, Harry Havnoonian, Lisa Johnson

**Guests:** Katherine LaClair, Amanda Rasley, Nancy Watson (Angles in the Outfield); Judy Fowler (Media Arts Council); Karen Taussig-Lux (Media Borough); Cara Wilkinson (Turning Point); Nick Yocco (Seven Stones); Marian Frattorola- Saulino (Values Into Action); Cecile Charlton (Delaware County TMA); Drew Arata (Earth & State); Scott Shaffner (Utility Advocate); Bob McMahon (Mayor)

**Meeting called to order at 6:04PM.**

**1. Public Comments: (Zubair Khan)**

- a. **Katherine LaClair, Amanda Rasley, Nancy Watson (Angles in the Outfield)-** Katherine LaClair, Amanda Rasley, and Nancy Watson attended the meeting from Penn State Brandywine Campus to raise awareness for their charity Angles in the Outfield (assisting OK schools to have access to stronger shelter structures)
- b. **Judy Fowler (Media Arts Council); Karen Taussig-Lux (Media Borough)-** Judy Fowler and Karen Taussig-Lux attended the meeting to discuss the progress of the Public Art Project initiative. Judy Fowler presented the timeline and overall vision of bringing public art into a three block radius along Plum Street. She explained that the steering group for this project was meeting regularly to bring this project to life and that there would soon be an RFP out to choose the landscape architect and artist for the project.
- c. **Cara Wilkinson (Turning Point) –** Cara Wilkinson added that this project was an important step for the progression of the town to lift it up to be an elegant and artistic community.
- d. **Nick Yocco (Seven Stones)-** Nick Yocco attended the meeting in support of the Public Art Project.
- e. **Cecile Charlton (Delaware County TMA)-** Cecile Charlton informed the board of the upcoming Bike to Work Week in May with May 16<sup>th</sup> scheduled as the official Bike to Work Day. A mention was made regarding incorporating bike racks into the Public Art Project and it was suggested to bring board member and owner of Cycle Sports, Harry Havnoonian, into future conversations.
- f. **Scott Shaffner (Utility Advocate) -**Scott Shaffner continues to attend the MBA meetings out of his interest in the business community. He works with local companies in assisting them to lower their utility bills.
- g. **Drew Arata (Earth & State)** Drew Arata attended the meeting in support of the Public Art Project and also as a member of the Retail Committee.
- h. **Marian Frattorola- Saulino (Values Into Action)-** Marianne Saulino introduced herself and her non-profit business Values Into Action.
- i. **Bob McMahon (Mayor)-**Bob Mc Mahon attended the board meeting to discuss some public safety initiatives that he was considering to create a safer atmosphere for our larger events.

**2. Approval of Minutes (Jack Cunicelli)**

- a. **March Minutes-** The minutes for March will be voted on in next month's meeting due of lack of quorum.

**3. Treasurer's Report (Debbie Pitt)**

- a. **Authorize to Pay Bills-** Debbie Pitt was not able to attend the meeting. Authorization to pay bills will take place in May.
- b. **First Quarter Financials-** Bryan Messick announced that First Quarter Financials showed a profit that is not typical at this time of year.

**4. Old Business (Bryan Messick)**

- a. **Merchant Survey 2014 -**Bryan Messick announced that the Merchant Survey was still currently being collected by the Neumann intern, Erik Heritage.
- b. **Visitor's Survey Update-** Bryan Messick wanted to thank Lisa McSain and Courtney Roszas for tabulating the results of the Visitor's Survey. Zubair Khan also wanted to thank Neumann University and Dr. Andrea Pent for the big role they played in administering the surveys. He added that Dr. Pent will be presenting the data at an upcoming conference. He went on to mention that the last survey was done in 2006 and that this recent survey was giving a fresh look into public

perception of the Media shopping experience.

**c. Garage Repairs Update-** Bryan Messick updated the board on the garage repairs. He explained that options were still being considered, but that the repairs were still scheduled to happen sometime from June-September. Bob McMahon added that the juror lot could be used for Dining Under the Stars and that Citibank's lot was secured for Wednesdays and weekends. Bob McMahon also mentioned that social media would be used to inform the public of open lots. Bryan Messick continued with informing the board that plans were to increase the signage for alternate parking as well as volunteer presence to direct the public.

**d. Jeremy Alvarez Proposal-** Bryan Messick announced that the Jeremy Alvarez proposal was still on the table and that the questions of how the board would fund it were still pending. Tom Hibberd added that the MBA needed to take control of the business aspect of the Comp Plan as this didn't seem to be properly addressed in the draft of the Comp Plan. Bryan Messick added that the board should continue to focus in on top priorities and relay these to the borough. Zubair Khan mentioned that the Comp Plan would be voted on in June, but that it did not address a lot of the issues that are in the best interest of the business district. Tom Hibberd also added that if the Comprehensive Plan Task Force did not want to ask for feedback in this area, the MBA needed to step in and give feedback/direction. Bryan Messick informed the board that the full page document was on the borough website. Zubair Khan added that the board might want to appoint someone to take these ideas back to the borough and he went on to nominate Tom Hibberd.

5. **New Business (Bryan Messick)**

**a. Committee Assignments- Follow-Up 2014-** Not discussed at this meeting.

**b. BBCG Filming on State Street-** Not discussed at this meeting.

**c. Retail Committee Update-** Drew Arata and Jack Cunicelli gave some updates regarding the Retail Committee and the upcoming meetings to be held on the Wednesdays after the MBA Board Meetings. The upcoming Sidewalk Sale was also discussed and is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>.

6. **Borough Liaison Report (Lisa Johnson)**

**a. Comprehensive Plan-** Lisa Johnson was absent from the meeting. See Comp Plan discussion above.

7. **Committee Reports (Zubair Khan)**

**a. Events Committees-**

**Roots Ramble-**The Roots Ramble is scheduled for Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Promotions Committee-**Report distributed; Not discussed at this meeting.

**c. Business Retention-** Not discussed at this meeting

**d. Executive Director's Report**

Zubair Khan asked the board for a moment of silence in memory of Jim Carney, the owner of John's Grill, who had recently passed away.

Zubair Khan announced that a new bridal shop was opening at 7 East and that a diner would be opening in the old Blueberry Bog location. He also mentioned that Fox Bank was leaving May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**e Technology Report-** Report distributed; Not discussed at this meeting.

**f. Retail Roundtable-** See discussion above.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:15PM**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Jack Cunicelli**

**MBA Secretary**