

Media Business Authority
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday July 8, 2014

In Attendance: Bryan Messick, Jack Cunicelli, Christopher Dougherty, Tom Hibberd, Peter Bendistis, Courtney Roszas, Lisa Johnson, Zubair Khan, Deborah Shipley

Absent: Loic Barnieu, Debbie Pitt, Warren Kuo, Harry Havnoonian

Guests: Addie Ciannella (Media Farmers Market)

Meeting called to order at 6:09PM.

1. Public Comments: (Zubair Khan)

- a. **Addie Ciannella (Media Farmers Market)** Addie Ciannella introduced herself from the Media Farmers Market and let the board know that there were opportunities to leave literature at the Manager's Table during the Farmers Market. She also informed the board that businesses could reach out to the Farmers Market through their website for an opportunity to be Business of the Month. She also mentioned that the Farmers Market was interested in recognizing any restaurants that were using locally grown food.

2. Approval of Minutes (Jack Cunicelli)

- b. **June Minutes-** Peter Bendistis made a motion to approve the June minutes, Tom Hibberd seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Tom Hibberd asked if Nick Yocco had followed up with Borough Council on his request last month to host a meeting to promote better communication amongst the groups invested in Media's future. It was mentioned that he had not yet followed up.

3. Treasurer's Report (Debbie Pitt)-

- a. **Authorize to Pay Bills-** Bryan Messick made a motion to ask for authorization to pay the June bills in the amount of \$31,727.00, Peter Bendistis seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- b. **Q2 Treasurer's Report-** Bryan Messick informed the board that the MBA Q2 financials showed the MBA in the black at this point in the year due to the success of the events and Zubair Khan's efforts to keep the costs down. The Treasurer's Report was distributed, but not voted on. The report will be voted on at the next meeting.

4. Old Business (Bryan Messick)

- a. **Merchant Survey 2014** Not discussed at this meeting.
- b. **Visitor Survey-**Not discussed at this meeting.
- c. **Jermy Alvarez Update-** Bryan Messick announced that Jeremy Alvarez would be beginning the interview process of his review from the list of businesses and individuals that were previously sent out to the board.
- d. **Holiday Parade Mass Gathering Permit –** Bryan Messick began what became a lengthy discussion surrounding the Holiday Parade Mass Gathering Permit and the overall concerns of the retail community regarding the proposed day of Black Friday for street closures. The MBA Board was interested in finding a compromise that would allow for the parade, but also honor the retail community. A solution was proposed for the parade to be on an alternative street (Front Street) rather than State Street on such an important shopping day for retailers.
- e. **Garage Updates-** Not discussed at this meeting.
- f. **Comprehensive Plan-** Bryan Messick mentioned that Tom Hibberd had sent a great letter regarding the Comprehensive Plan's status and input from the MBA and that both Bob Linn and Jeremy Alvarez had also added to his comments. It was announced that the MBA intended to continue to review and give feedback to the current Comprehensive Plan proposal.

5. New Business (Bryan Messick)

- a. **Committee Assignments- Follow-Up 2014-** Not discussed at this meeting.
- b. **Friday Nights in Media -** Zubair Khan announced a new idea he had been working on to give retail a boost for the upcoming seasons. He said that he felt that there needed to be a solid program in place for retail that followed in the footsteps of the success of other events such as 2nd Saturday and Dining Under the Stars. Zubair Khan added that promoting "Friday Nights in Media" could be a great option for the retailers to join together in staying open late and bringing a flow of traffic to town for shopping. The board responded favorably to the idea and Zubair Khan said he

would go ahead in refining it and presenting it to the retail community.

- c. **Visit Philly Main Street Initiative-** Bryan Messick announced that he had just learned that Media had been chosen as one of two towns to promote for the year in a campaign for small towns on Visit Philly. He mentioned that he believed the program was going to be rolled out at the beginning of August and that this was an exciting opportunity for furthering the promotion of Media.

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

- a. **Borough Council Updates-** Lisa Johnson asked Bryan Messick about the status of the Banking Committee and mentioned that some businesses had been asking about the Facade Improvement Program. Bryan Messick answered that WSFS, Bryn Mawr and Franklin Mint Credit Union were the only three banks that were currently participating, but that Wells Fargo might be joining them in the future. Zubair Khan asked Lisa Johnson to send the names of those interested to him. Bryan Messick also added that the lending program would only be for businesses and/or landlords.

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

a. **Events Committees-**

- **Blues Stroll-** Zubair Khan announced that some of the expenses from the Blues Stroll had not yet been paid due to invoices still coming in through the various vendors. He also added that the Blues Stroll broke a record for ticket sales this year which was largely due to Kevin Schramm's efforts in setting up the online PayPal system for ticket sales. Zubair Khan said that the Media Theatre had a great turnout and although The Holmes Brothers were expensive, they brought in a big crowd. He also added that there were no arrests that for Blues Stroll or for the Roots Ramble this past April. Courtney Rozsas made a request that the 2015 Music Series be scheduled for nights other than 2nd Saturday. Zubair Khan answered that the Music Committee would be meeting and that this could certainly be discussed as a possibility for next year.
- **Bastille Day-** Zubair Khan announced that Bastille Day was coming up on July 12th. He mentioned that the restaurants were being charged \$50 to come out that evening a la "Dining Under the Stars".
- **Car Show-** Peter Bendistis announced that the upcoming Car Show was ready to go for July 13th. Bryan Messick added that the new barricades were ordered, but that they would not be ready by the weekend for the Car Show.

- 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 announced that a new restaurant, The Garden Cafe, would be opening up soon by the owners of Koffee Korner. He also announced that Fast & Fancy Restaurant had recently closed after 30 years in business and that there was still a vacancy on the East side of State Street in the storefront previously inhabited by One or Two of a Kind. Zubair Khan also informed the board that the Soccer Event on the West end of State Street had been a success. He added that many of the businesses on this end of town came together to raise awareness for the west end of the business district and to raise money for local causes. He announced that a Mass Gathering Permit was being submitted for Movie Night on Olive Street to happen in August.

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

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Cunicelli

MBA Secretary