

## **EPABID Board Minutes**

**January 14, 2020**

**Present:** Steve Lauer, Pam Zenzola, Adam Leiter, Lee Styer, Rachel Street, Micheal Giangjordano, Anthony Magueri, Pete Spina, Adam Geer (Minutes prepared by Nancy Melchiore)

**Absent:** Julie Grassi

Meeting called to order: 9:08am

**1. Approval of Minutes:** Steve 1<sup>st</sup>, Michael 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **2. Financial Updates**

Our new assessment income number is \$10k less than previous years. We also need to make up gap to pay for cleaning. We are looking to cut our budget through various items. Maybe digital newsletter, bundle phone and internet, and possibly reduce entertainment costs. We are looking to get more help on receiving sponsorships. Board members should try to help get sponsorships to supplement through any relevant connections they have. \$5,000 each in sponsor outreach would make a significant difference. We would like to receive a breakdown from PARC for cleaning services. Adam Geer wants to look at memorandum of understanding document from PARC about cleaning.

Assessment money has been coming in from 1201. The problem on the Mifflin Street properties is still in process regarding outstanding assessments and Adam is following up. An amount of \$17,000 from Constitution center is still outstanding and Adam is following up.

Adam is thinking of a person who has some book keeping experience and will help in office to free up more time for Adam to handle director-level Avenue business. Having a part time employee instead of paid interns, and reducing the amount of time the book keeper is working could also save money or balance the difference from current book keeper who is \$6,000 a year and interns who were about \$2,500 last year.

### **3. New Businesses/Available Locations**

Society Hill Dance Studio is moving ahead very quickly with renovations and improvements. Eastern Pass Tattoo had a community zoning meeting with East Passyunk Crossing and there was only one no vote for tattoo parlor. Their ZBA hearing is February 12<sup>th</sup>. Big Catch Poke opened and is off to a good start. Plenty has space available for lease with liquor license included, they have a couple of offers but are looking for the "right match". Paradiso space should be getting updated soon. Interior Concepts has paper on windows, and so does Townsend. Green Aisle is closing but there is immediate interest in the space. 1824 EPA (former 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter) is going to be a food concept.

Even with the businesses that are in transition, we need to stay positive about 1600 block as there are over a dozen successful businesses very active on the block. Analog space is available for rent, and building will probably be up for sale. South Philly Bar and Grill closed around the holidays and the building is for sale. Jinxed is moving though timing is uncertain and it has not been officially announced. The building will be available for rent in April.

Society Hill Dance is still going to try to get grant for painting, signage, and possibly lighting. Still waiting for next steps on window for BID office.

#### **4. Event Update**

The Holidays had a number of events, many activities to keep things busy and work to draw in foot traffic. Some merchants did well some did not. The question Adam and Pam are focusing on is how did they do for year overall? So far, many responses are that overall year evened out or did slightly better.

Restaurant week is Feb. 24 to March 6. There will be twenty-four restaurants participating, with six new restaurants taking part. There were twenty seven last year but we lost some because of closings. Triangle is now included, and other new spots are June, River Twice, Redcrest, Big Catch, Flannel.

Next events are Women's event in March, Flavors in April, and Philadelphia Orchestra event in June.

#### **5. Public Relations/Social Media Updates**

Adam had a conversation with Kory and Elissa about putting out the RFP in order to be transparent about the process and let them know they should take part in the submissions.

#### **6. Lighting, parking, Streets, Health and Safety Updates**

Some of the string lighting needs tweaking/adjustments which will be addressed after the 1500 block is up. All the lighting that is up and running looks great and receiving a majority of positive feedback. We will work to program the lights to turn white or various colors throughout the year to match up with observances.

We are following up on PPA putting meters on the west side of the 1600 block.

The additional security during the holidays seemed to be effective, with no additional incidents occurring while they were on patrol.

There has been an overwhelming outpouring of help for the victims of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Adam is in touch with Sarah Anton from Passyunk Square Civic Association to keep on top of needs and next steps.

Meeting Adjourned 10:43

**Next meeting Feb 11, 2020 9:00 A.M.**