

EPABID Board Minutes

June 8, 2021

Present: Pam Zenzola, Steve Lauer, Adam Leiter, Adam Geer, Michelle Gillen Doobrajh, Michael Giangjordano, Julia Grassi, Amanda Rucker, Marlo Dilks, (Minutes prepared by Nancy Melchiore)

Absent: Pete Spina

Approval of Minutes: Marlo, Michelle

Financial Updates

EPABID has \$109,000 in Wells Fargo. First half of DCED grant \$20,000 came in with the other half expected to come in three months. A trickle of checks came in and some money from a couple of properties paying outstanding balances. Annual meeting will be June 24th via Zoom. On May 24th EPABID received confirmation of PPP forgiveness.

Options to explore and discuss for applying grant money includes; extend lighting to the 1200 and 1300 block, address tree planting on the Avenue, host a job fair, and extend video project into the holidays.

Open Board Seat Next Steps

Michelle and Pam created a document for candidates who are applying for board seat. We would like to fill seats sooner than later. Document gives a guideline of our needs. Adam Geer suggested that we add a clause stating that board seats are open to business and property owners. He offered to do research on the board makeup as it pertains to community membership.

Covid 19 Updates and Discussions

Marc Farnese from Mr. Martino's passed away, there will be a tribute open to friends/public June 12.

1911 EPA (June) has a tenant signed.

1915 EPA Tre Scalini is under contract settling in July.

Stateside has re-opened with regular hours.

Caribbean food place in the old Plenty is aiming to open soon, maybe Fathers Day.

Employee hiring still a problem across many businesses

Good news – More businesses expanding days/hours

Part time Admin person hired for EPABID office

Public Space and Street Planning

Streeterly setups built at Arctic Scoop and Gabriella's Vietnam

Stogie Joes awning project is in process with permits from City

Parking concerns – Can we look at Neuman Goretti, perform a parking audit to determine usage?

Upcoming Events

We are structuring events through the summer with a focus on different promotions and pop up events. Feedback from a number of restaurants is that they are not ready for large events given staffing and operations challenges.

We are gearing up for the fall to reintroduce larger street closure events.

Flower Show BID is targeting ads on digital and social media. Beer Week and Pride Month are coming in June.

Relaunching QOTA for June.

Reconnecting with Bearded Ladies for a fall date.

Green Fest Philly traditionally takes place at Headhouse/South Street but had approached us about possibility to do it in September on Avenue.

Public Relations/Social Media Updates

Eater – Mr. Martino's

Passyunk Post – Farmer's Market

PhillyMag – Good Buy Supply, Le Virtu

PhillyVoice – Barcelona

Philadelphia Caller – Burger Day w/POPE

FYI Philly 6ABC – Gabriella's

Fox29 – Stogie Joe's on reopening restrictions

Garden Days – Inquirer Things to do each weekend, Metro, MommyPoppins, PHS (EPABID won Best BID/Neighborhood for Bloom Philly), Cooks Who Care with Ember & Ash, River Twice and Laurel

Space Planning, Health, and Safety Updates

Traffic light at Moore has been a problem-broken and corrected multiple times.

There is a bill in council to extend the area of prohibited vending in EPABID boundaries so that vending trucks will not encroach on Avenue businesses.

Mckean street and fountain they are doing traffic study. Following up to have STOP painted on 11th and East Passyunk by the fountain in addition to that.

We are getting signage up to remind about cleaning up after your pets.

Streeteries will be allowed by the City until end of year at this point.

There has been an uptick in trash and graffiti citywide – need to encourage people to call 311.

New handicapped signs one on each block required.

June 11 indoor mask mandate will be dropped for vaccinated people.

EPABID Logo and Historical Marker

New Signage for office will be in installed soon. Street Banners and branding on website will be updated. Everything is moving ahead. Banners look great.

Board Input

What can we do different with events? Let's make this fall really great! Michelle suggested a real Winter Festival this Christmas! Michael suggested a Board gathering/Happy Hour and Marlo offered Punk Burger as a host for the venue. Pam and Marlo to work on dates.

Meeting adjourned: 10:35

Next Meeting July 13,2021 9:00am