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**Georgette Steffens**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Richard Rosen**  
CHAIRPERSON

**James Hart**  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

**Daniel Fariello**  
TREASURER

**Jeffrey Gordon**  
SECRETARY

ATTENDANCE:

Richard A. Rosen  
James P. Hart  
Daniel Fariello  
Darius Shahinfar  
Dominick Purnomo  
Holly Brown  
Jeffrey Gordon  
Karen Laberge  
Louis Bannister  
Mark Aronowitz  
Seth Meltzer  
Stephen M. Cleary  
Tracy Metzger

ABSENT:

Carolyn McLaughlin  
David Sarraf  
George Penn  
Mark Yonally  
Meghan Barkley  
Robert Sears  
Pamela Nichols

STAFF PRESENT:

Georgette Steffens  
Rebecca Haizmann  
Jason Bonafide  
Veronica Medina-Matzner

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Rosen at 4:07 P.M.

Mr. Rosen asked for approval of the April Board minutes | Motion by Mr. Fariello, Mr. Hart seconds| All approve.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Rosen welcomed new Class A Property Owner Board Member, Seth Meltzer, Principal at Hudson Partners Development. Mr. Meltzer spoke about the working he is developing Downtown, including a residential conversion at 99 Pine St. to be available in December, and residential units and a Food Court, opening this Summer at 50 South Pearl St.

Mr. Rosen acknowledged this being Ms. Laberge's last Board meeting, and thanked her for all her years of service to the BID. He also thanked Mr. Banister and Ms. Brown for renewing their commitment to the Board for another 3-year term.

**Annual Meeting**

Mr. Rosen announced that the BID has secured \$23,000 in sponsorships for the Annual Meeting, and that does not include ticket sales. Mr. Rosen noted that the BID had budgeted \$15,000 in total revenue for the event and congratulated Ms. Steffens and Mr. Fariello for their hard work towards the event.

Mr. Rosen thanked Mr. Gordon for donating the venue and providing beer and wine for the reception. Mr. Rosen acknowledged the presence of members of the DiNapoli family, who are attending the event this evening as the BID presents Anders Tomson with the James M. DiNapoli award.

**New BID Policies**

Mr. Rosen let the Board know that the BID is updating the Document Vault, and as part of being eligible for State funding, it needs to adopt the following new policies:

- Diversity – stating the BID is committed to fostering a culture of diversity and inclusion
- Anti-nepotism – stating the BID will not hire family members of Board or staff, with the Executive Director having some discretion if the need is specialized
- MWBE – the BID will follow the State's MWBE requirements for any State funds received

Mr. Rosen noted that copies of each of the proposed policies are in the Board packet and stated that these policies were pulled directly from the State's template, with one minor edit, and they are already informally followed by the BID. He added that the first two policies will be included in the employee Handbook, but the MWBE policy requires a Board resolution. Board members requested more time to review the policies and that a copy of the policies be sent to them via email for review. Mr. Rosen stated that the policies have been sent to O'Connell & Aronowitz for their input.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### **New Initiatives Approvals**

Mr. Fariello presented the following initiatives for approval by the Board:

#### **Outdoor Movies**

Mr. Fariello stated that the Budget & Finance Committee is recommending \$3,000 towards the Albany Community Development Agency's purchase of a movie package, composed of screen, projector and sound system, for outdoor movies. Ms. Steffens updated the Board that the BID is combining Fork on the Road and Deja View and it is now called Bites, Camera, Action, with 6 screenings scheduled for this year. Mr. Fariello added that a local church is offering to donate their screening system to the BID for 3 of the 6 screenings, and so equipment rental for the remaining 3 screenings would come to about \$1,600. Mr. Fariello noted that the BID can pay this initial investment back in only two summers, and that the BID's event will take place on Monday evenings and the ACDA's will be on Tuesdays, so there will not be any conflicting dates.

**Action:** Mr. Cleary made the motion to approve the investment for \$3,000, Mr. Aronowitz seconds. All approve.

#### **Trolley**

Mr. Fariello stated that BID staff is recommending participation in a pilot program for a trolley loop with stops on Lark Street, Downtown and the Warehouse District. The trolley is scheduled to run Thursdays to Saturday nights, from 5pm to midnight, starting on Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day Weekend, and the role out would also include new taxi stands on Pearl Street.

Mr. Fariello mentioned that partners of the initiative also include the Albany County Sheriff's Department (through their stop DWI program), SMG/Capital Center, Albany Parking Authority, ACCVB, Lark Street BID, and CDTA.

Mr. Fariello said that the total cost to run the pilot program is \$65,000 and that initial request was for \$5,000. BID staff recommends a \$2,000 investment in support of the program. Ms. Steffens added that this program is a pilot program and will need to see how car ride share services starting on July 9<sup>th</sup> will impact getting around.

**Action:** Mr. Aronowitz motions to approve a \$2,000 investment in the trolley program, Mr. Cleary seconds. All approve.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **Placemaking Exhibit**

Ms. Steffens updated the Board on *Downtown is Pawesome*, and announced that the BID received over 80 applications from artists, as young as 11 years old. She added that a few samples are being displayed in the first floor of 60 State Street, where the Annual Meeting will take place.

Ms. Steffens stated that the Curatorial Committee will be reviewing all applications tomorrow, May 4<sup>th</sup>, and selected designs will be announced soon. She noted that the Nipper Dog idea has resonated really well with the



community and asked the Board to consider ordering more dogs and awarding more artists, for a total of 20 dogs, instead of the 10 originally approved.

Ms. Steffens declared that each 3-foot dog costs \$495 to be molded, and \$500 is paid to each artist, so an additional order of 10 dogs would mean another \$10k investment. Ms. Steffens noted that these dogs will be available for the auction, which also increase the BID's fundraising prospects, and part of the money raised will be donated to the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. Ms. Steffens also shared that a social media photo contest, and walking maps with the dogs' locations will be part of the exhibit's program.

**Action:** Mr. Cleary motions to approve an additional order of 10 dog statues, at a price not to exceed \$11,000. Mr. Shahinfar seconds. All approve.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting ended at 4:43 PM.

**NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 13, 2017\*\***

**4:30 PM**

***\*\*Please note the date change***