

MONTCLAIR CENTER BID

GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARD WINNER 2015

Phil Cantor Photography
January 13, 2016

In attendance: Phil Cantor, Israel Cronk, Michael Gillespie, Diane Israel, Lisa Johnson, Debbie Masel, Kazim Mirza, Stephen Plofker, Sharda Ramharack, Sue Schultz, Nicole Silva, Matt Silverman, Joanne Smalls, Sean Spiller, Jerry Sweeney, and also executive director Luther Flurry.

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm with a quorum.

Approval of December minutes was moved by Israel, seconded by Jerry and passed unanimously.

The At-Large Class of 2016 of the Montclair Center BID is Matt Silverman, Robert Weber, Joann Smalls and Michael Gillespie. Jerry moved that the current class of directors be elected, seconded by Stephen and passed unanimously. The executive committee of Phil Cantor, President; Jerry Sweeney, Vice President; Lisa Johnson, Secretary; and Robert Weber, Treasurer were unanimously elected after Matt moved and Michael G seconded.

Jerry introduced the nominating committee as Jerry Sweeney, Sean Spiller, Debbie Masel, Sharda Ramharack, Sue Schultz and Diane Israel. The new committee would look at possible new board members and filling vacant staff positions. Jerry moved that the nominating committee members be selected and was seconded by Michael Gillespie. The motion was passed unanimously.

Lisa reminded the board that at our next board meeting, on February 2, we will have guest speakers Athena Sarafides of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Gray Russell of Montclair Township. They will speak about Sustainable NJ and the Green Business Recognition initiative.

New Ordinance about gender bias pricing for dry cleaners, hair salons and nail salons is being drafted. Code enforcement issue? Something open to suing? Israel talked about his salon and gender differences. A possible solution is long and short hair pricing not based on gender. Issue came up because of a complaint about gender based pricing in Montclair. Jerry feels it would be an added burden on the shopkeepers. The Council is going to reach out to Luther about the issue. Ladies Night? Is that gender bias?

A Traffic and Parking study has been commissioned by the township to study business parking and residential issues with a too - small budget. There needs to

be off-street, long-term parking – four to eight hours. A challenge has been our meter heads, which are being replaced soon. Software for the meters has to be programmed but we feel we should be involved in the decision process to make sure the business community gets what they need. Sean indicated the township is waiting for warmer weather to install the new meter heads. The township consultant has not reached out to the businesses.

Debbie Masel reported that the retail committee would meet next Wednesday at the Old Mogul Theater at 7pm to decide on a time line for the coming events. Block captains are now in place on Bloomfield, N & S Fullerton, Glen Ridge and Church Streets. Debbie also queried about the staffing to be decided upon when the new executive director is in place. The executive and nominating committees will be working on hiring those replacements.

Israel wanted to notify people of the A-Frame signage issue. There is no consistency in enforcement. The signs must be wood not plastic and have no base. A moving A-Frame is forbidden.

Michael G indicated the museum has a new installation until June. First Free Thursday will take place February 4th. Banners for the exhibition will be put up shortly by the BID.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 after a motion by Michael G and a second by Jerry.