

# **MONTCLAIR CENTER BID**

## GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARD WINNER 2015

**Montclair Center BID  
Full Board Meeting  
June 12, 2019 – 7 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.  
Montclair House Grill, 12 Church Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

Board members in attendance: Phil Cantor, Sean Spiller, Jason Gleason, Lisa Johnson, Sharda Ramharack, Sue Schultz, Nicole Silva, Jerry Sweeney, Nat Testa, Jeff Beck, Jennifer Bobal, Garth Guntry, Brittany DeMaio.

Absent: Renee Baskerville, Arlene Carrini, Chris Francois, Matt Silverman, Honey Correra, Rich Polton

Non Board Member: Garth's guest

### **I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

7:07 pm call to order. Jason welcomed everyone in attendance.

### **II. ADOPTION OF MAY MEETING MINUTES**

Sue's amendments: On page 3- under Trees and Tree Beds, the language should read updated and not passed out- passed info around. Under category E- Robert Squires 'asked.' On page 5 at bottom- R should be Phil. On page 6, the wording should be changed to- 'Nicci also mentioned that longer meter times.' Renee asked- are there any efforts made to reach out to other non-profits- such as Montclair Neighborhood etc. On page 7- 'Jennifer passed out.' Jason moved to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Jeff, and there was unanimous approval.

### **III. CHAIRMAN/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jason discussed Jennifer's resignation, stating that it was just not the right fit, but she was able to accomplish a lot in the past 7 months. She will be working until August, and will help us in the interim, but we need to get the search committee going again. The BID's current priority is to focus on strategic planning that will commence over the summer. Jerry stated that Jennifer devoted a lot of time to the development of office manuals and writing minutes, which left us in a better position.

Jason asked the board how they envision the organization moving forward. Some businesses are not happy with the type of music and volume that is currently being showcased on Church St. Who do we do the music for- the biz owners, the pedestrians?

Jerry discussed how we looked at our real purpose during the re writing of the bylaws. Some of the fall events we might have to decide if we're going to devote our resources to, such as the fashion night. Jason stated that if we don't have Jennifer in place to do the heavy lifting, maybe we should sacrifice the rest of the events for the year. Oktoberfest and the Fashion Show might not be possible to do well without an

ED. Tree lighting, Small Biz Saturday, Art Walk, etc., are already in place and are not high-level events.

Lisa mentioned the BID's annual involvement with National Night Out on August 6<sup>th</sup> and asked Garth and his guest for more information. It was confirmed by Garth that the BID would still be involved with this event.

Britt stated that she would talk with the Family Fest organizers to see if they still want to hold their event, since they piggy back on to Oktoberfest. That is not a tier 1 event for the BID.

Jen Bobal asked Jason if he would stop Montclair Center Stage before September. Jason replied that we have already taken sponsorship money so that is not possible, and he is not sure why business owners are not into it. We can stop it earlier- there are some open dates for rain dates and what not, but we should continue on as planned. Jason stated that everyone has their own idea of how they want Montclair to be. But who are we doing Center Stage for- the businesses, community, property owners? How does this event fit into our mission statement?

Sue mentioned that during the development of the budget season in the fall is when we review all of our events.

## **NEW BUSINESS: COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

### Streetscape and Visual Improvements

-Streetscape- Jen Bobal reported that the judging for the tree bed contest is happening this week. She has been working with Jose from the Streetscape Coalition and they will judge the submissions this weekend. Five winners will receive gift certificates from Pure Energy and Hillcrest Farms. Everyone who participated and does beautification to a tree bed or planter will receive an eco-friendly garden stake/stick. Sue, Lucas, Nicci, Jaji, and Jennifer Brown all went around to every business and engaged in conversation regarding the contest, social media posts, and a press release. Sue planted six new beds in front of her business, Jerry stated that 36 new trees were planted. Jen Bobal pointed out that Jennifer worked really hard on getting the district new trees.

### Parking Working Group

Parking committee- Phil reported that he met with the Economic Development Committee of town council and will be meeting with the parking utility staff directly. The next meeting is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Nominating Report & Procedures – Sue Schultz

Nominating Committee – Sue referenced the handout included in the Board packet and the Nominating Committee recommendations. Handout introduced to the Board at the May meeting had some recommended changes in wording, which were: “We

will use Survey Monkey for **nominating** during the first week of December. There cannot be more than 21 votes.” “Board members may **nominate** one candidate per position, but Board members can be nominated for more than one role.

Jerry stated that the Nominating Committee should vet all nominees. Sue stated that the committee met last week and decided that Board members must be present to vote for Officers of the Executive Committee at the January Board meeting (via secret ballot). A discussion ensued and it was finally decided that in the event of a tie, there would be one more round of voting. If a tie still prevailed, winner would be declared upon a flip of a coin. Sean suggested that if there were more than two candidates nominated, the two with the highest number of nominations would be the finalists.

Sue proposed the nomination of Jaji (Jarmila) Packard, owner of the Crescent Shops, to fill the unexpired property owners term of Dr. Trichas. (12/31/20). Jen Bobal stated that Jaji had contributed much to the Visual Improvements committee. Sue mentioned that Jaji was delighted and honored to be asked. Jerry proposed that Jaji be elected to the Board. Jason seconded. All in favor was unanimous. Sue then proposed the nomination of Jen Bobal, owner of Pure Energy, to fill the unexpired business owners term of Jenna Davis (12/31/19). Jerry stated that Jen is highly recommended. Phil stated that Jen is a very active non-board member currently. Jerry proposed that Jen be elected to the Board. Jeff seconded. All in favor was unanimous. Jason said that Jen is amazing and happy to have her on the Board. Sue reported that now we have the required 21 members on our Board.

#### Kids Biz – Brittany DeMaio

Brit announced that Family Jam was a huge success. The weather was perfect and there was a steady flow of people; the venue was almost at capacity and the vendors were happy. Nicci also participated and concurred that it was a successful event.

#### Search Committee Request

Nicci, Britt, Jerry, and Jason all agreed to take part in the search committee for the next Executive Director. Jason will email the whole board and ask for volunteers.

#### Other Business

Phil announced his Line of Work show at Berkshire Hathaway; the opening night is tomorrow from 6pm to 8pm

Jason moved to adjourn at 8:04. Phil seconded. All in favor.