



MBA Board Meeting Minutes, January 21, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm.

In Attendance: Heather Arata, Vince D'Amico, Don Connolly, Tim D'Ignazio, Stu Eli, Dave Fairman, Vanessa McGuinn, Elizabeth Romaine, David Sibley, Brittany Scharr, Michael Straw

Absent: Danielle Millio-DiGalbo,

Consent Agreement: T D'Ignazio motion to accept 12/17/24 minutes and 12/31/24 Financial Report. Unanimous approval.

Comments from the Chair: Ten Thousand Villages announced upcoming closure. Bookish Notions is open. Nimble Crafts expecting March opening above HomeSewn.

Borough Council affirmed board membership for D'Ignazio, Sibley and Straw through 2027.

Vice Chair Comments: Strategic meeting held in January to discuss committees and mission/purpose, etc. M. Straw expressed interest in being involved in communications. Consensus that one more meeting would be worthwhile. Meeting will be scheduled.

New Years Eve went fantastic. Largest crowd ever. Well-behaved and good weather. D Connolly built a ceremonial light switch for the event.

Treasurer's Comments: Year-end loss of \$17.8K but budgeted to be \$20K, so better than expected. Cash flow is in a positive spot and bank balance is strong.

Secretary's Comments: "Delco: The Movie" at Media Theatre sold over 1600 tickets. Well-received and lots of great press coverage.

Executive Director's Report – Written report distributed.

Discussion of vacancies in State Street District – House: Media Real Estate already has a tentative lease. Rye: Discussed with landlord who has a pending lease with a new, independent retailer. 10K Villages: square footage and lease requirements will limit target tenants. D Fairman has been reaching out to potentially interested parties – parking often cited as an issue.

Main Street Now 25 conference in Philadelphia in April. Mobile Tour of State Street on 4/6/25. D Fairman and V McGuinn expect to register for the conference – Board invited to register, MBA could cover the cost (\$465).

Borough approved annual support for MBA as requested.

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Borough Manager reported a significant spike in unwanted matter in wastewater from State Street District business tenants. Discussions will continue to investigate if change is due to introduction of County Health Department, or Aqua's recent work in town, etc.

Notification received from Delaware County Commerce Center that all businesses need to file a new PA form (Act 122). MBA will distribute information.

Ice on State is this weekend, 30 sculptures are sponsored, MBA is underwriting special interactive sculptures and live carvings, music and walking characters.

Operations Administrator Report – Updates on trolley rides reviewed.

Art Show update – partnering with MAC – already 77 vendors signed up.

Everybody's Hometown merchandise has been selling, inventory is up-to-date.

Ice On State is in good shape – collaboration with Breakthrough Beverage. Wickedly Witches will appear providing family-friendly experiences.

Discussed thoughts about rebranding/re-positioning MBA's public-facing mission.

Rivalry Café opens 1/22/25 for breakfast and lunch – former On-A-Roll location.

Borough Council Liaison – Thanks expressed for advocacy on MBA's behalf.

New Business – Topics for 'agenda' workshop meeting: Vision; Executive Director's purpose and direction; geography; committees and assignments; presenting MBA publicly/branding/image. S Eli suggestion to form holiday décor committee now, to make decisions for 2025 season. Recommended 'Basecamp' software to organize and coordinate committee work – perhaps Maestro (which we already have) can do this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Next meeting February 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Prepared by David Sibley, 2/13/25