

# **Official Minutes of Rahway Arts and Business**

## **Partnership Board of Trustees Meeting**

**January 11th at**

**2018 at 6:30pm**

**Office of the Rahway Arts and Business Partnership,**

**2 City Hall Plaza 2nd floor, Rahway, NJ 07065**

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This meeting was properly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Meeting Called to order: 6:35 pm

### **I. Roll Call**

Trustees Present: President Joel Schwartz, Vice President Larry Fishman, Patricia Kozlowski, Matt Dobrowolski, Dave Crespo, Executive Director Amy Garcia Phillips, Managing Director Ann Marie Williams

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe was present.

### **II. Minutes**

Patricia Kozlowski motion to accept the minutes from the November 9, 2017 meeting.

Matt Dobrowolski 2nd the motion. Aye:4 Nay:0 Abstentions: 0

### **III. New Business**

Managing Director, Ann Marie Williams reported that the following businesses opened or are planning to open:

- Businesses that opened/Closed

- Culture Expressions officially opened 1417 Main St.
- Atelier Rosal had their soft opening 74 E. Cherry St.
- Terminal Transport closed 45 E. Milton
- Zoning permit signed for 97 Elm
- Zoning permit signed for 45 E Milton
- Zoning permit signed for 1653 Irving Street
- Kennedy Jewelers closed
- Juice Hub slated to open in February
- Lionheart Maintenance is slated to open in February

Ann Marie Williams, in her role of Economic Development Specialist, sent out Vacant Property notices about impending fines starting in June of 2018.

Larry Fishman entered the meeting at 6:42.

Larry Fishman requested the RABP investigate parking solutions. The RABP will work with the Mayor and Business Administrator to see if there are solutions we can find with the Rahway Parking Authority.

#### IV. Financials

Managing Director reported on the expenditure breakdown of City Beautification, Small Business Saturday and Winter Wonderland projects. She noted expenses for the Holiday Lights in 2018 will INCREASE NEXT YEAR, as the RABP is planning to purchase more snowflakes for the lamp posts and spotlights for the front of City Hall.

The RABP was able to keep expenses for Winter Wonderland to a minimum due to sponsorship from Sherwin-Williams Scheifersten's Farm and from the help of its volunteers.

#### V. New Business

Larry Fishman offered to be on the Culture Crawl Sponsorship team. The RABP is assembling their marketing material and will begin looking for sponsors in early 2018. Mayor Giacobbe offered to reach out to radio station 103.5 for sponsorship for Culture Crawl.

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe will be the Interim Mayor until the position is voted on by the City Council in January.

The week of January 22-26 will be the third annual Rahway Restaurant Week. This was moved from April per the request of the restaurants to move Restaurant Week to a slower period of time.

Rahway's Taste of Spring will be held on Friday, April 20, 2018. Matt Dobrowolski, Chair of the Taste of Spring Committee, composed a "History of the Taste of Spring" document to give the RABP perspective on the History and Evolution of the Taste, since the very first Taste in 2001.

The Board proposed a "post event" in which the restaurants recognize patrons wearing Taste wristbands and offer a special to those who attended the Taste of Spring to encourage attendees to visit the local establishments post event.

Culture Crawl will be held on September 22, 2018. The RABP will be approaching the Union County Freeholders to consider making September, Union County Arts Month.

The RABP is planning a dance festival for early July with dancer, Nikola Palivoda who participated in Culture Crawl for the past two years.

The Executive Team reviewed the status of the terms of all of the Trustees. In 2018, Larry Fishman's and Matt Dobrowolski's second terms will end. They both indicated they would like to continue as trustees for a third and final term. Danni Newbury and Ron Dolce (not in attendance) will be contacted after the meeting, to ask if they would like to continue as trustees, as their second terms ended in 2017 with their final term ending in 2020.

The Board and Executive team reviewed the existing Bylaws and identified areas that required updating. President Joel Schwartz will review these with the RABP'S attorney and report back to the Board at the next meeting in March.

#### VI. Old Business

The RABP would like to thank Artist Francesca Rizzo for her design and execution of Winter Wonderland's Cherry Street decorations as well as her key volunteers, Kevin Milford and Christiana Neal.

#### VII. Update from Councilman Farrar

There was no update from the City.

#### VIII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

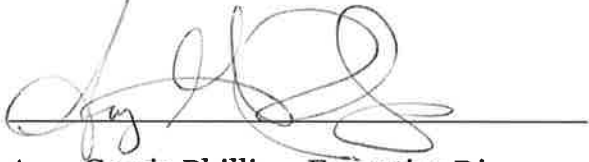
X. Adjourn

Patricia Kozlowski Motioned to adjourn the meeting. Joel Schwartz seconded. Aye:5

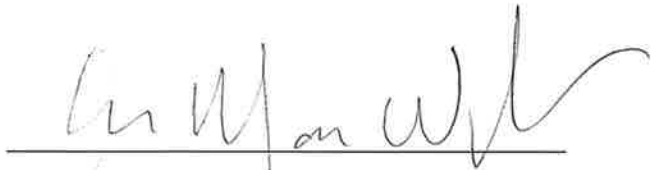
Nay:0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Amy Garcia Phillips, Executive Director



Ann Marie Williams, Managing Director

rahway arts  
+ business  
PARTNERSHIP

