

# Official Minutes for Rahway Arts + Business Partnership Partnership Board of Trustees Meeting

## March 11, 2021 at 6:30pm

The RA+BP meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. was conducted virtually in order to avoid potential impacts from Covid-19. Due to the ongoing public health emergency, and the Governor's Executive

Orders related to the same, the RA+BP will conduct all meetings remotely and by electronic means for the foreseeable future. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 (the "Open Public Meetings Act") and consistent with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services guidelines, the RA+BP will be open to the public by electronic means.

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

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**Call to Order:** Meeting Called to order 6:37 pm

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### Roll Call:

President Joel Schwartz

Vice President Larry Fishman

Secretary Patricia Kozlowski

Treasurer Ron Dolce

Trustee David Crespo

*Also in attendance*

Managing Director Ann Marie Williams

Managing Director Amy Garcia Phillips,

Absent:, Newbury, Dobrowolski



*Vice President Larry Fishman entered the meeting at 6:47pm.*

*New Business*

President Schwartz proposed moving the 2021 annual meeting from March to May for the purpose of allowing the Nominating Committee time to vet potential candidates. The annual election of officers will take place at this time. Nomination Committee Members are Schwartz, Dobrowolski and Garcia Phillips.

Motion to move the 2021 Annual Meeting to May.

Motion: Fishman                                  Second: Kozlowski

Aye: 5    Nay: 0   Abstentions: 0

Absent: Newbury, Dobrowolski

The Managing Directors illustrated the new concept for the Taste of Spring 2021. Utilizing a Passport, uniquely created for this event, patrons pay \$5 for the Passport and then visit participating establishments on the day and time they are participating. Taste “travelers” pay \$5 for the featured food or drink offering. Thirty eight establishments are participating, twenty nine of which are located in Rahway.

The Executive Team reported on upcoming and ongoing events such as Munch Madness, Rahway’s Own and Rising Star Nominations, Culture Crawl Music Series, and Culture Crawl Arts and Music Festival. As well as other events the RA+BP have been asked to collaborate including Rahway River Watershed Association’s Water Festival and a Large Scale Chalk Art project.

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The RA+BP with assistance from the City, is applying to become a member of *Main Street New Jersey*. The City hired grant writers from the Aubrey Group to prepare the application. While the focus is The Grands, all of the SID will benefit from the designation.

*“Main Street New Jersey is a Main Street America™ Coordinating Program and works with communities in NJ providing on- and off-site technical assistance and training in downtown revitalization and management. The program helps municipalities improve the economy, appearance and image of their central business districts through the organization of local citizens and resources.”*

VP Fishman asked if the Aubry Group will continue to write grants for the RA+BP. Managing Director Garica Phillips reported that both parties would consider working together again, however, nothing has been formally discussed or established.

### *Old Business*

President Schwartz will finalize the Rahway Cares Resolution.

The audit from 2019 has been completed but still needs to be finalized

Motion to increase Managing Director Williams salary from \$40,000 to \$42,000 and that it is retroactive to January 2020.

Motion: Schwartz

Second: Kozlowski

Aye: 5 Nay: 0 Abstentions: 0

Absent: Newbury, Dobrowolski

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*Financial Report*

Director Williams reviewed the bank statements for the operating account as of February, 2021

Motions to close the internet account and move the funds to the general account.

Motion: Dolce

Second: Kozlowski

Aye: 5    Nay: 0    Abstentions: 0

Absent: Newbury, Fishman, Dobrowolski

*No Update from the City by Councilperson Miles.*

Trustee Fishman proposed the RABP write a letter to the City to require or recommend that new businesses wishing to engage in the producing or selling of newly legalized marijuana in Rahway follow guidelines such as: use local residents as employees; reserve a certain amount of the licenses for minority and/or women; employees are paid a living wage; entrepreneurs who apply are cornerstones of the community and are positive forces in our community.

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

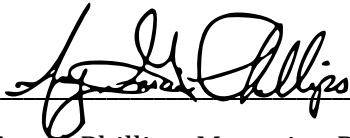
Motion: Fishman

Second : Crespo

Aye: 5    Nay: 0    Abstentions: 0

Absent: Newbury, Fishman, Dobrowolski

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.



Amy Garcia Phillips, Managing Director



Ann Marie Williams, Managing Director

Date signed: May 20, 2021

Date signed: May 20, 2021

rahway arts  
+ business  
PARTNERSHIP

