

SABA General Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2004

In attendance: D. Buyer, D. Poole, P. Duquette, T. Smolinsky, D. Algarin, K. Therios, E. Thomas-Poehner, T. Saville, D. Halter

Philip Duquette updated the group on following issues:

SABA Officers: Tracy Saville will move from SABA Treasurer to SABA secretary. Philip will fill role of treasurer until a replacement can be found.

Good Cheer Scavenger Hunt: 60+ participants with positive reaction to event from both participants and businesses. Follow up from event lead Tanya Smolinsky emphasized focus on ways to increase participation, coordinate business interaction with participants and event setup and timing. Group decided to continue discussion of an annual SABA event at a later date.

Dan Buyer update on The Rochester River Challenge (Sept. 11, 2004):

River Challenge Committee would like input from SABA to increase business participation in The River Challenge. The goal is to find ways to keep participants at the event site and in the neighborhood. Past events have included a barge, coupons, a Jazz Fest, Flea Market, Orchestras, Taste of the Wedge, and climbing walls. Discussion in the group focused on the role of SABA in the event and possible opportunities to benefit both the event and SABA. All businesses are encouraged to feed back to River Challenge Committee. Philip Duquette will represent SABA on the committee.

For additional information on The Rochester River Challenge open enclosed attachment to see SWPC event pamphlet.

Philip and Dan Updated group on Restaurant Crawl (Feb. 4, 2004):

Approximately 30 SUNY Geneseo students will visit area restaurants as part of a SEI (Southside Enterprise Initiative) project to develop a marketing strategy for South Wedge restaurants. Currently nothing is set in stone; event planners are waiting for restaurant feedback on event. Group suggestions include breaking the students into small groups to maximize student time in the restaurants while reducing the impact on participating restaurant owners. Suggestion was also made that SABA cover the cost of student meals to encourage restaurant owner participation. Philip will follow-up with SEI George Gotcsik on program goals and review approach to business owners.

Dan requested SABA representative for SEI. SEI provides information and support to businesses in the form of benefits and opportunities. Next meeting is February 6, 2004 @ noon in SWPC offices. Tonya Smolinsky will represent SABA at quarterly SEI meetings.

For more information on SEI open enclosed attachment to see SEI pamphlet.

Daisy Algarin update:

City of Rochester Neighborhood Grant (\$5,000) live contract approved January 12, 2004. SABA can start submitting vouchers for grant reimbursements. 75% of grant money must be used by July 1 or remaining funds will be lost.

Daisy would like to get all Rochester business associations on the same fiscal calendar start date of July 1.

Banner Application has been delayed due to City of Rochester concern over text on banners (no business names allowed on banner.) After City of Rochester review all banners should be approved as current designs do not include any business names.

Dan notified group to the following:

Urban Enterprise Forum is March 5, 2004 8am to 12pm at HSBC Plaza. See attachment for event pamphlet for additional information.

South Avenue Multimodal Funding Improvement changes have been accepted by the city; only request was that that submitted contract maximum be \$300,000. An updated contract was later submitted by SWPC.

SWPC is currently pursuing improved lighting on South Avenue. Examples of replacement street lights can be seen on Browncroft Blvd and Mt. Hope. Strong possibility of obtaining colored lamp posts (green.)

Next SABA meeting is February 9, 2004 at 9:30 am at Women's Coffee Connection.