BID Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 19, 2026

In Attendance	**Absent**	**Guests**
Rich Vandenburgh	Mark Carlos	Kevin Stuessi (ZOOM)
Ryan Farrell	Eric Orford	Lily Doherty-Johnson (ZOOM)
Linda Kessler	Mike Rose	Mary Bess Phillips (ZOOM)
Gus Acero		Lily Doherty-Johnson (ZOOM)
Hina Muddassir		
Kara Hoblin		
Katy Perry (ZOOM)		
David Serure (ZOOM)		

Quick Recap

This was an IN-PERSON Meeting. The Board covered the treasurer reports. Also addressed the fact that the BID is seeking to provide more regular quarterly reports to the Board. Which will happen in September. Richard also mentioned that Mark Carlos and Mike Rose have elected to step away from the Board. There was discussion around the openings that will occur on the BID Board and the fact that Katy Perry will also be leaving. Richard mentioned that Andrew Wertz would be interested in stepping into the role leaving 3 open seats that will need to be filled.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:11am.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The July Minutes were carried to the next meeting for approval.

Treasurer's Report- Account Status, Reports & Budgets

David detailed $35,592.46 in the operating account and $101,127.38 in the money market account as of July 31st. David reported that we had received tax receipts from VOG in the amounts of $1,345 and $27,345.40 which were deposited. Covered the various normal expenses and possible forecasted upcoming expenses. David also confirmed that the BID Tax Returns were filed. Richard also commented that he and David were looking into an app that will allow simple tracking of Everett's time with even greater accuracy. Linda also mentioned that our Square account can also track the hours. Linda moved to accept the report. Ryan seconded. All voted in favor.

SOBO Committee- Planting, Trash Cans & Supervising Everett Nichols

Linda reported that SOBO is continuing to maintain the planters with Everett and he is now on regular compensation schedule via M&T Bank issuing electronic checks. Discussed engagement with Everett Nichol and how he is being paid and the record keeping. Linda

reported on discussions with MaryBess on maintaining the rain gardens. Much discussion about collaborating with the Maritime Group on cleaning them up.

Discussion about Mark Carlos progress with trash can replacements. Barco is a provider and the costs associated with that effort. General costs per can is $800 - $1000 per can. Richard indicated that the Board should offer the top three choices and make sure we engage with VOG on servicing them and keeping our streets clean. Discussed total budget to purchase enough to cover the entire district. Richard also mentioned a return to seeking sponsorships for the Holiday Lighting initiative and funding he has already received commitments on.

DIME Committee- Maritime, Coast Guard Welcome & Shellabration

Richard commented on the great visit of the Coast Guard Eagle tall ship and the last minute effort that BID Board did to welcome the crew and all of the positivity that was seen as a result of the 100+ welcome packages that were handed out. Richard noted that Hina deserved a lot of credit for putting together the bags and the great visual turnout it was. The BID Board members donated several hundred dollars of their own funds to create the gift bags and various vouchers.

Linda Kessler reported that Nancy is continuing to get organized for the Halloween events working with the village as well.

Discussed the question of Maritime Organization and BID's interest in getting a table together and offering some level of sponsorship. Kara Hoblin reviewed the various sponsorship levels for BID to consider what it would like to do. Kara provided instruction that the BID Board email Sarah and advise what we would like to do. Kara indicated that she is recusing herself from any BID decision making on Maritime decisions. There was much discussion on how the revenue from the event will be handled and what transparency will be offered once the event has concluded.

Richard shared that he was contacted by Cornell and various parties about the status of Shellabration / Raise Shell and what the format will be. There is a planned meeting for the following week in order to get aligned for 2026.

SMILE Committee- SM Report, Website Update, Financial Transparency

Gus reported on behalf of Chris of Nomadic who was not present. Gus covered updates on growth and upcoming events, Gus reported a monthly performance with 234,000 total views, particularly driven by reels which accounted for 72% of views, with significant growth coming from non-followers. We grew an additional 255 followers in the last month. There was also discussion about a monetizing an advertising program with pinning for a fairly nominal cost.

The team discussed implementing a sponsorship donation system requiring a separate bank account, with plans to create a donation tab on the website. There was an extensive discussion about the summary of the Annual meeting and how the process works from elections, to funding to budgets. Ryan presented a comprehensive graphic and information series about BID structure, funding, and voting processes that will be shared with the board for review before public release. This would be for the purpose of offering transparency to membership and the public.

There was discussion about researching for a Marketing Assistant candidate. SMILE indicated they would continue to investigate who might be a good candidate to consider.

MaryBess provided an update on the Greenport shipyard process, noting that Suffolk County will handle easement discussions while the village maintains zoning and planning oversight.

GATE Report- BID Update to VOG, Maritime Support and new Membership Initiatives.
Richard confirmed that he will update VOG Board in September. Noted that Trustee Robins will be stepping down as a trustee. Pointed out the need to schedule a meeting with Jenna as Village Administrator. Noted that we continue to deal with the paid parking issue and Kara pointed out that we should use Josh of Aldo's parking map and include it into our website. Should make sure we connect with Josh to get his permission for use and then the board can update as needed.

Touched on the Vacancy issue. Richard noted if there was any other developments with Lucy Barnes Opera House progress. Richard also noted that we need to begin considering other capital initiatives that we should get behind. The issue of trying to get more engagement is one of the barriers and Richard noted Katy Perry's prior offer to organize a get together with our memberships.

Richard noted that there was a request from Maritime Organizers to help get specific information from businesses that have not responded about whether they are going to be involved in Maritime or not. Discussion was has about dividing up the list that was given to have BID Board members chase down confirmations and help them.

OLD BUSINESSES

NEW BUSINESS

Adjournment
Richard noted the next regular meeting will be a Zoom Meeting on-line only on September t 19th at 9AM. He then indicated the board will move to Executive Session and adjourns the regular meeting at 10:35am. Gus seconds. Board moved to Executive Session.