

# Roosevelt Center Merchants' Association

## Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2018

<b>Present:</b>	Caitlin McGrath, Toni Dorvitt, Dave Dorvitt, Ed James, Sharon Natoli, Eva Fallon, Joe Gareri, George Matthews, Gretchen Schock, Emmett Jordan, Interim Chief Kemp, Sgt. Bob Lauer, Cindy Comproni. J. Davis, Marc Sagen (GPD), Michael Hartman
<b>Regrets:</b>	
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	April 18 @ 10:00am <b>Location:</b> New Deal Café

The meeting was called to order by Caitlin McGrath at 10:05am.

## Announcements

- ❖ **Spring Break** for Prince George's County Public Schools begins with a 2-hour early dismissal on Thursday, March 29 and ends Tuesday, April 3.
- ❖ **Update on Greenbelt Elementary School mural project that was funded in part by the RCMA** "Students have art class once a week and they have been diligently drawing designs and cutting mosaic tiles to place on the large boards that will be mounted on the outside of the school. Their creativity and excitement has been a joy to witness," writes Lauren Cummings GES PTA President. No one was interested in writing or finding someone to help write, so the issue was dropped.

## Items for Discussion

- **Financial Report** – RCMA currently has \$1,203.60 in its account.
- **Looking for someone to write a Community Foundation Grant for RCMA** -- Caitlin. Due April 15. Caitlin can't write it because she has submitted one for the theatre and is on the review committee. What would we write for anyway? Marketing? Eva suggested that we may approach a grant writer, but we don't know the Community Foundation would allow it. Emmet states that a grant writer should charge a flat fee not a percentage for ethics reasons.
- **We meet the fourth Wednesday of the month. Could we change that to a different week of the month?** – Eva. The proposal was made to switch to the third Wednesday. There were no objections. J., Davis pointed out that the golden age club meets on Wednesdays at 11:00, so that would have to be kept in mind.

## Other Business

- ✓ Michael proposed a seminar on what to do in an active shooter situation. Wants to get feeling of GPD, suggestions? Training? George Matthews suggested watching the video "Run, Hide, Fight" (<https://youtu.be/5VcSweju2D0>). J. Davis suggested that we show the video at a meeting and have the police discuss it. Interim Chief Kemp said – active shooter is something they have been involved with since the Columbine shooting. There have been many nationwide procedures and programs. All police across the nation receive the same training so they all would respond the same. Sgt. Bob Lauer teaches to small groups, commercial venues, and public venues. Chief suggested watching the video and customize the training for the group.

Caitlin asked what to do about odd individuals. A customer who would buy a ticket and then leave or would move around during the movie sitting right next to people, or leave through one of the emergency exits. The business should also notify the police so he becomes a known individual. The proprietor has the right to ask him to leave

whether he has bought a ticket or not. Get an incident number. Police don't need to be called just for an arrest. They have some discretion. It may not have to result in an arrest. Owners may want to consider entering the police department's "Agent of Owner" program. That allows the police to act on behalf of the business without the owner being present. The program renews each year automatically. It would be best to update the contract if there is any question. Contact Dana Hill at the GPD (301-474-7200) to get signed up.

- ✓ Bee Yoga Fusion sponsoring the program "Angst" for ages 10 and up. April 21 @ 11am at the Greenbelt Theatre.
- ✓ Gretchen is also hosting a free 1<sup>st</sup> Aid & CPR training called "Friends and Family." It is not a certification, but can be used to brush up on training. The date will be announced in the future. Send Gretchen a message if interested.
- ✓ Michael asked if any businesses have AED machines. J. Davis said there may be an agency that can provide these to businesses cheaply. Cindy thought perhaps an insurance company may offer this.
- ✓ Dave Dorvitt asked about the council work session. J. Davis said that the minutes have not been made available yet, but may be forthcoming. We will add this to the agenda for next meeting if they are available.
- ✓ Tony asked about Naloxone (opioid overdose medicine) training. Chief Kemp said that this is something that Greenbelt Cares is putting together. Greenbelt CARES is sponsoring a free training which includes recognizing the signs of overdose, training to administer Naloxone or Narcan, and a free NARCAN prescription kit. Training is April 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Call 301-345-6660 x2018 to reserve space.
- ✓ Emmett asked the police about engaging homeless in the center. Interim Chief Kemp said it's a personal decision. Keep your own safety in mind. Maintain a safe distance. Drop back if hostile. It is up to the individual how comfortable you are. Police will do a check on the person's welfare. It helps the police to do their job. They partner with Cares to help arrange treatment or counseling. The police don't mind being involved. There are no laws against loitering or vagrancy.
- ✓ Maker Festival is April 14. Eva will send information around.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 am.