

Roosevelt Center Merchant Association Meeting

January 25, 2017

ROLL CALL: The meeting was held at the Greenbelt Coop Supermarket and was called to order at 10:06 a.m. Present were Merchants: Caitlin McGrath, Old Greenbelt Theatre; Gwen Murphy, Greenbelt Coop; David Whaples, WMCRP; Cynthia Comproni and Ed James, Greenbelt FCU; Linda Ivy, Granite/Cross; Eva Fallon, Greenbelt MakerSpace; Gretchen Schock Bee Yoga Fusion; and Anwar Saleh, Barber & Stylist. Also present was Council Members J. Davis, and Konrad Herling, AJ Travers from Comcast .and Ed James from GCDC.

MINUTES: The minutes from December 21, 2016 were approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Mrs. Comproni gave the financial report. RCMA's current balance is \$952.09. She stated 11 merchants paid dues for 2017 totaling \$1100. After discussion of the Treasurer's report, it was agreed to add YTD totals since January.

Mrs. Comproni informed merchants the City has a Revolving Loan Fund which she thinks is still available for Roosevelt Merchants. She gave out copies of the information.

OLD BUSINESS: Mrs. McGrath will collect from merchants donations for Greenbriar residents displaced by a recent fire. Merchants have until Friday at 5 p.m. to give Mrs. McGrath their donation. The collection is for 5 families. Greenbelt Maker Space and the Greenbelt FCU stated they had previously provided donations/assistance but will contribute to the merchant's donations.

Mr. Herling suggested publicizing in the News Review. Ms. Fallon will look into this.

AJ Travers from Comcast discussed with the merchants their service. Comcast is available for Roosevelt Center Merchants. He can be reached at 301-500-8975. A few merchants noted that their current service with Comcast drops around 3 in the afternoon. Mr. Travers requested they call 800-391-3000 to report it, get a ticket number, and then contact him. It was noted Verizon fios is not available for most of Roosevelt Center. A merchant requested to have Verizon attend a meeting.

Ms. Fallon will find out about a website for RCMA and email merchants. She also will look into getting RCMA listed on Google and Yelp. Mrs. Ivy will get a Facebook page for RCMA. It was the consensus to provide a list of merchants as well as a list of dues paying merchants to Ms. Fallon and Mrs. Ivy. Other marketing ideas were discussed

including Valpak and a Map. On a motion by Mrs. Ivy, seconded by Ms. Fallon the merchants approved Mrs. McGrath to apply for a grant with Greenbelt Community Foundation to assist with advertising costs. The deadline is April 15th. A discussion was held about including all merchants in RCMA's advertising efforts or only those that paid their dues. It was the consensus it would have to be a balancing act. It's in RCMA's best interest to include all merchants to help keep the Center viable.

NEW BUSINESS: Mrs. McGrath introduced the City's new manager Nicole Ard.

Mrs. Ivy requested a city liaison for the merchant meetings. Mr. Herling and Ms. Ard stated they can explore this.

A discussion was held about WSSC performing work in the Center. Mrs. Comproni requested the City notify individuals or businesses of any work or actions taken that directly affect them such as construction work outside their business.

Ms. Schock stated there was a problem with teenagers running up their stairs one evening disturbing her business. She called the police and was told the camera was not working.

A discussion was held on merchant electric bills. The Theatre had an increase and other merchants were asked about their experience.

NEXT MEETING: The next meet was scheduled for Wednesday, February 22nd at 10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.