

NEW DEAL CAFÉ BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S
MEETING MINUTES
October 27, 2014
Call to Order: 6:40 PM

In attendance:

Board: Michael Hartman, Terri Acton, Frank Gervasi, Nancy Melandry, Dina Sykes
Audit Committee: Dorain Winterfeld, Tom Jones
Employee: Amethyst Dwyer
Visitors: Ronnie Skotkin

1. ***Moved to consider agenda as amended.*** (Added "Music Coordinator Compensation" and "Yelp Review")

Motion: Michael Hartman/2nd-Frank Gervasi – approved unanimously

2. Review and discussion of September 22nd minutes. ***Moved to approve minutes as amended (remove #9).***

Motion: Frank Gervasi/2nd-Terri Acton – approved unanimously

3. Members and Visitors: Ronnie Skotkin likes the new curtains behind the stage. Ronnie also mentioned that the ladies' room is need of repairs - unanimous agreement. Mention of safety with bands/music.

4. President's report:

- Michael Hartman responded to Leeann Irwin (FONDCA) regarding participation in Coop Month.
- Pumpkin Fest: Michael has offered to provide cookies and cider for the pumpkin walk. Karim and Michael went to Costco to acquire.
- Saturday, November 8 from 2 pm to 4 pm there is a memorial service for Bill Muney in the New Deal Café back room.
- New Deal Café has advertised/supported: Raphael's Race, NASA and Utopia Film Festival.

5. Secretary's Report:

- ***BIG thanks to Amethyst Dwyer for providing monthly tallies!! This makes everyone's job easier.***

6. Treasurer's Report:

- Frank provided a profit/loss statement for review.
- Noted that 2014 books had difficulties due to January 2014 irregularities.
- Dorian Winterfeld suggested we consider Harding Group after we get the books to reflect an accurate income. Expenses ARE correct (fixed costs) but income is not.

- The Board of Directors provided consensus that a bookkeeper can be paid \$220 for providing numbers regarding profit/loss. **Frank Gervasi recused himself from this conversation.** Frank has been using his daughter (Ellen) to assist with the accounting.
- Tom Jones recommended: The New Deal Café should have budget category definitions that can be consistent throughout 2015.
- Frank Gervasi reported that QuickBooks will be able to provide a budget with categories. He will provide this for the budget session at the next meeting.

7. Art Coordinator's Report:

Mike Rall reported that Meg Haney had ordered the new tip jars: a replica beer mug with lock top.

8. Audit Committee Report:

Tom Jones recommended that six (6) months from the annual meeting that we review issues that have fallen through the cracks. We need this to remain focused and move the cooperative forward.

9. Bar Manager's Report:

- Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival provided record sales day: \$1800 in beer and wine sales. 1500 people attended.
- Half-pint glasses were purchased at the Restaurant Depot. Now available and programmed into the cash register.
- Special mention of the Nightingale Trio, a cappella group.

10. Old Business:

- Extended hours – discussion of new MOU. Discuss with Julio the option of later work.
- Discussion of Yelp and advertising. Frank Gervasi will investigate further.
- Update: back room and patio improvement – curtain behind stage will be re-hemmed.
- New plants will be put in the new pots when the current flora fails due to weather.
- The City will replant pine trees in Greenbelt.
- Tables are still under consideration. Keeping the seating numbers. Would like to consider a configuration with more space around the bar. Nancy Melandry and Amethyst Dwyer are the “ad hoc” furniture committee by consensus of the Board of Directors.
- Dorian Winterfeld recommends an Internet repeater for the back room. (Frank and Dorian will work together to make this occur.)
- Frank Keyser is building a rack for the speaker/soundboard. (\$300)
- Board representative at FONDCA in November: Terri will go this meeting pending date availability.

11. Frank Gervasi mentioned information needed for Directors and Officers insurance renewal. Michael Hartman and Frank will discuss with Harding Group.

12. New Deal Café will be advertising with Maryland Party for \$79 annually. Amethyst and Meg will work on this to make sure we have music/entertainment schedule posted for them. This was approved by consensus of the Board.

13. Prioritization of improvements: 1. Tables/chairs, 2. Back room HVAC, 3. front counter (Frank would like to see this improved sooner rather than later), 3. Ceiling, 4. Exhaust fans, 5. Office improvements, 6. Air curtain for front door.

14. Frank Gervasi will investigate budget options and provide information for budget reports in the next meetings.

Big Thanks, Mike and Meg!! The new couches are a wonderful addition to the café.

15. Music coordinator compensation tabled due to time constraints.

16. ***Motion to adjourn: 9:28pm***

Motion: Michael Hartman/2nd-Dina Sykes – approved unanimously

Next meeting(s): December 1, 2014 at New Deal Café
 December 15, 2014 at the Coop Grocery Store Meeting room-
 confirmed

Submitted by Dina Sykes

Friday October 24th, 2014

Bar Manager's Report

We've had another good revenue month! A new record was set on September 27th for the Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival. Sales were incredibly brisk the entire day, with a night that culminated in a packed house and thirsty patrons.

Two new beers made their appearance, Evolution's Lucky Seven and Franklin's Octoberfest, along with a return of a long time cafe favorite, Dogfish Head's 60 Minute IPA. Lucky Seven is a rich, full flavored porter with notes of coffee and chocolate that play off of the sweeter toffee and dark dried fruit tones. Franklin's Octoberfest is a German-style amber lager with a medium body, a touch of caramel and a toasted malt aroma and flavor. The 60 Minute IPA is a powerful but balanced East Coast IPA with a lot of citrusy hop character.

Alicia Deligianis has been trained and made her official "debut" tending bar on the afternoon of The Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival. It was a very busy day and she did a great job.

Half pint glasses were purchased at Restaurant Depot. We are still waiting for Karim to add it to the register, but meanwhile we have half-pints available through "open items".

Music Coordinator's Report

The Greenbelt Rhythm and Drum Festival was a big success and generated a tremendous response from the community. The weather was beautiful and an estimated 1500 people throughout the day came out to enjoy the festivities. Black Masala opened the evening's music by leading a marching parade through the Roosevelt Center and into the epicenter of the giant closing drum circle, culminating with a procession into the New Deal to begin the night's high energy musical offering.

The Nightingale Trio made their cafe debut on September 28th and captivated the entire audience with their recreation of the unique, rhythmic, complex, and stunning folk songs that have spanned centuries of Slavic artistic culture. This incredibly talented three woman a cappella group was recently featured on NPR's Prairie Home Companion.

Other highlights include: The Wild Anacostias (Hyattsville's premiere New Orleans/Blues style, funky, raucous, merry-making, multi-morphous Zydeco party band); The Goodfellas (a Beatles tribute band); the fifth annual return of Wolgemut (historic and traditional music with ancient bagpipes, bombastic drums, dance and comedy); Lipbone Redding (soulful singing and inventive guitar playing with exotic and percussive vocal sounds such as throat singing, bass and beat-boxing, and astonishingly realistic lip-tromboning); Wine & Alchemy (a unique world music band performing a fusion of original and traditional music derived from Greek, Gypsy, Celtic, Medieval European, French, Sephardic, Turkish and Classic Rock); The Roustabouts (an original, upbeat take on the blues that wanders into the world of funk, R&B and rock with the fiddle as the x-factor); Little Red & the Renegades (a WAMMIE-winning, high energy New Orleans funk, blues and Cajun band); Transatlantic Crossing (Irish and Scottish jigs and reels, as well as New England and French Canadian tunes); Susan Jones Jazz Quartet (a violin led jazz group, playing an eclectic mix of originals and jazz standards, with a strong emphasis on swing and Bossa Novas); Zydeco Jed (an East Coast roots band blending many influences from rock, jazz, funk, and grateful delta); Geff King and the Brave Engineers (full-throttle Country and Bluegrass, with touches of Western Swing); and Tower Green (a Renaissance and British folk music inspired rock band featuring a unique blend of original and traditional songs).

~Amethyst Dwyer