

Kiwanis

GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917



KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown

CLUB MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

We had only 12 members, plus our speaker, at Tuesday's meeting. Emmett led us in prayer while President Pat led both the meeting and in song. We sang Happy Birthday, On Kiwanis, and the Packer Fight Song.

Neither our members nor our speaker were protesting anything, because all were standing during the Pledge.

Lunch included: Mashed Potatoes, Carrots and Parsnips, Meatloaf and cheese cake. Mnnnnn, good!

Joe was on TV, talking about the I-Pads for the Autism Project, and Anne gave a happy dollar because she had lunch with Betty Tilton. We will be doing another fund-raiser at Hu Hot from 4-8 on Wednesday, 9/28, and are looking for volunteers to each work a two- hour shift.

Our speaker was Brian Johnson, Executive Director of On Broadway. Brian has been on the job for only three months having moved over from the Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. The On Broadway district runs from Mather street to the Mason Street Bridge and from the Fox River To Ashland Avenue. The goal of on Broadway is a promotion of local business and economic improvements of the area. They want people to live, work and use the area for recreation.

Primary funding of On Broadway comes from events. The largest is the Wednesday Farmers Market, which draws between 10,000 and 15,000 people per week. It is the second largest farmers market in the state, behind only Madison, which is the second largest farmers market in the country. On Broadway's is a non-traditional farmers market with only 30% of the 150 vendors selling produce. Brian wants to keep it that way. This year they reduced the number of Vendors by 18% in order to have gaps between the booths, so it would be easier for people to shop at local companies. Brian would like to expand the farmers market by not just limiting it to our short summer season.

People live in the Broadway district. On Broadway wants to encourage more people to move to the area by expanding the number of rental properties and cleaning up the blighted properties that are found in the district. They also want to expand office buildings to allow addition companies to build or lease office space in the district.

Big Top Baseball, owners of the Bullfrogs, are looking to build an Outdoor Exhibition facility near the Mason Street Bridge. It would be the Bullfrog's home field for 30 games a year, but also used for up to 180 events per

year. It would be city-owned. The total cost would be nine million dollars. Big Top Baseball would put up one million in cash, the city four million cash, and Big top would pay off another four-million-dollar loan.

Thanks Brian for a very enthusiastic update of On Broadway. Next week's speaker will be Steve Vickman, from the Mediation Center of Green Bay.

by Bob Rowan