

City of Asbury Park

Business Committee Meeting

19 SEPTEMBER 2018 / 10:00 am / City Manager's Conference room

ATTENDEES

Sonia Spina, Bianca Freda, Amy Quinn, Jacki Sharpe, Russell Lewis, Marilyn Schlossbach, Phyllis Maffucci, Sylvia Cioffi

ABSENT: Adam Nelson, Kathy Kelly, Reggie Flimlin, Larry Dembrun, Isaac Jones, Jenn Hampton, Leslie Castellini

AGENDA

Minutes approved from July 18, 2018 / Topics below were discussed out of order.

1. Review of last meeting agenda to refresh where we left off in July.
2. Business promotion/events subcommittee - (1st Thursday). Committee members: Larry - Chair, Bianca, Marilyn, Jacki, Isaac. If you are a part of this committee please let me know and I will add you to the list.
Next Meeting - TBD
3. Plastic Bags - Amy provided a survey of neighboring town's ordinances regarding plastic bags environmental issue. *survey attached.

- A discussion took place on how Asbury Park should best handle it. (The City is currently at a Silver level certification). Some of the ideas that went across the room were, instead of banning plastic bags, allow biodegradable plastic bags, (biodegradable poop bags are needed). Amy noted that since businesses order in bulk they would need 4 months to deplete their current inventory. The question was: A. should Asbury Park ban plastic and paper or charge a fee? (As some other towns are doing).
B. If a fee is decided, what should the money be used for?

- It was suggested that if a fee is voted the city should allow the business owners to keep the fee and contribute \$100 per year towards an environmental cause. It was also suggested that a video be made to teach people how to shop in an environmentally conscious way and to NOT use plastic or paper bags. It was noted that the city has ordered several thousand cloth bags for businesses to utilize. A suggestion was made to make the change gradual; rather than ban plastic bags right away, first charge a fee for a period of time, and then ban single use plastic, allowing people to get acclimated to the change. *This was the ultimate decision. First there will be a fee. In the future, single use plastic will be banned, (amount of fee and length of time not yet determined).

4. MOVIE SCREENING - The city of Asbury Park and Jersey Shore Surf Rider will be hosting a FREE movie screening at The Showroom. The documentary is titled: "A plastic ocean" This is an educational event to coincide with Asbury's recent push for meaningful plastic legislation. The movie will be shown on **Sunday, October 7th**. Register on Eventbrite to attend:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-screening-of-a-plactic-ocean-documentary>

New Business

Suggestion by Isaac - (via email) that Mike Manzella come and speak about the bike share program, parking, and other transportation issues. Announcement by Phyllis - Asbury Insider blog/magazine is open for business and will be offering packages that include some free advertising, giving members of the business committee first dibs. "I'm excited by the team of great women on board. Heather Jensen is the IT/Technical person that handles everything web related. Together with some other talented women we will be able to offer a comprehensive menu of services which will include advertorials, social media marketing, event calendar updates, and more. Please reach out to me for more information.

NOTES

An open discussion took place among the business owners specifically with regard to the boardwalk. Some of the issues/concerns noted were:

- A. Needing to have representation by Madison Marquette at the business committee meetings so they are aware of the issues and concerns being discussed.
- B. The garbage being emptied on the boardwalk with motorized vehicles looks unsightly and could be dangerous when there are large crowds of people. Also, the garbage is not being emptied properly. It was noted that some restaurants on the boardwalk do not keep the area in front of their establishment clean. The term used for the boardwalk in front of (certain eating establishments) was described as “filthy.”
- C. A question arose as to who is responsible for keeping the boardwalk clean: The city, Madison Marquette, or the tenants? It was also clarified that Delisa takes care of garbage, DPW takes care of recycling. Amy will speak to Michael and DPW to see how this can be improved and have DPW come speak at one of our meetings.
- D. Another topic that came up was that some businesses had received inspections (and fines) from the city for encroachment onto the sidewalk that is beyond their permitted area. These inspections and fines were issued on Labor Day weekend when they were extremely busy, but came as a result of complaints. It was suggested that the city take photographs (only) of businesses not in compliance before Labor Day weekend, but wait until after Labor Day to issue fines and speak with business owners.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Sylvia is going to speak with Chris or Pasq from Madison Marquette about attending the next business committee meeting.
2. Sonia has reached out to the DPW: The City's Superintendent of Public Works, Bill McClave, will be attending the October Business Committee meeting (**Wednesday 10/17 at 10am**) to talk about the process for trash and recycling on the Boardwalk, and to answer any other questions you may have. Sylvia will be confirming attendance of someone from Madison Marquette in the next week or so. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend if you have any questions regarding trash and recycling on the Boardwalk.
3. Sonia has reached out to the City's Transportation Manager: The City's Transportation Manager, Mike Manzella, will be attending the November Business Committee meeting (**Wednesday 11/21 at 10am**) to give us an update on transportation and parking projects in the City,

and to answer your questions. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend if you have any transportation/parking questions.

4. ***Just a side note for everyone to be aware; Wednesday 11/21 is the day before Thanksgiving.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA –

- Guest speaker – Bill McClave from DPW
- Update on moving screening
- Update on when plastics fee will take effect
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Meeting Adjourned @ 11:15 am