

Business Committee Meeting 2020

15 January 2020 / 10AM / City Hall City Manager's Conference Room

ATTENDEES: Bianca Freda (Co-Chair), Amy Quinn (Deputy Mayor), Donna Vieiro (City Manager), Larry Dembrun, Reggie Flimlin, Jenn Hampton, Austin Leopold, Russell Lewis, Adam Nelson, Jackie Sharpe, Sylvia Sylvia-Coffi, Chris Zatoeski, Sonia Spina

ABSENT: Kathy Kelly (Co-Chair), Phyllis Maffucci (Secretary), Robin Elliott Preston, Isaac Jones, Marilyn Schloshbach, Jamie Soto

GUESTS: Ben Ross

- 1) December Minutes
 - Approved
- 2) 2020 Officer Elections Nominations
 - Phyllis will be stepping down as Secretary
 - Next meeting we will nominate and elect officers
- 3) Presentation by Diane Raver founder Garden State Film Festival 18th Annual, March 25-29

Venues: Paramount, Berkley, Asbury Hotel, Jersey Shore Arts Center, City Council Chamber and Senior Center; 237 Films from around the world; All wheelchair bound get in free; Trying to make experience easier for hearing impaired; Jenn Hampton featured in 2 films including Local Legends; Trying to make event affordable, weekend pass is \$50 if purchased in advanced; Thursday night meet the filmmakers, Saturday and Sunday; 25,000 people came over the weekend last year; Spring Lake 5K is donating tickets for children in Neptune and Asbury Park to attend one of the events; Tito's Vodka is a sponsor

- Asbury Hotel will cover all tickets for ADA accessible Per Larry
- Festival is trying to get as much local participation as possible
- Cross promotional possibilities available: restaurant – food donations; businesses can offer an incentive, ie show your ticket and get an offer, business is listed in program, website, releases etc
- A “Shop Hear Now” kind of promotion could work for Garden State Film Festival
- Chamber to help with getting signage in all restaurants
- Diane Raver asking if we can do a sign, mural or sculpture that says this is the home of the Garden State Film Festival
- Festival considering putting a jitney stop downtown. Boots on the Ground committee to suggest best location for this to Diane
- Diane to send info sheet and advertising information

4) UEZ Update

- Survey and evaluation still in progress and no word yet on when results will be released
- For questions, contact UEZ Help Line 877-913-6837
- We also have a new contact as James Simmons is out on leave, Joyce Zayas 609-292-2103 – but they prefer all questions go to the help line

5) S109 Presentation

- Marilyn not in attendance – ask her for an update next month
- Sylvia trying to contact Senator to make sure it doesn't affect the merchants

6) Mercantile Renewal

- Bianca brought up that Mercantile renewal material requested an email but the form did not have a spot to add in email. Sonia will let Clerk's office know.

7) Parking

- Kathy Kelly not in attendance but we shared an email summarizing the January Parking Committee Meeting she attended (see below)
- Sonia will ask Mike Manzella to attend next BC meeting to give us an update on Bangs Ave Garage, New Parking Garage etc.
- There is interest to park in the Bangs Avenue Garage earlier (7am)

I attended the monthly meeting of the Parking Committee. It was largely a discussion between concerned business owners and residents and the parking committee about the changes that were made (and amended) concerning the 5 day and 7 day permits and the location of permit parking.

It was a fairly extensive conversation that included a discussion of the safety issues of employees and the building of a new parking Garage, expected to be completed by the beginning of 2022.

Also addressed was the price increase.

I made the suggestion that if the city was concerned with too many employee permits taking up downtown spots during peak times that one solution would be to allow the sharing of permits, which would result in fewer permit sales, but also fewer permits being used by employees who are not actually working. The committee agreed that it was an option to consider.

Additionally, it was discussed how the Business Committee could help amplify the availability of parking in the Bangs Avenue garage.

On the whole, the Parking Committee was welcoming of the Business Committee presence and the public presence as well noting that they are not always aware of the impact their changes and decisions make.

8) Pie in the Sky Update Russell & Reggie

- Governor Murphy appointed new members to Transportation Board yesterday – Citizens and not politic positions – engineers and others with decades of experience in transportation.
- We have not heard back from Freeholder Arnone.

- Pie in the Sky will move forward and collect the Mayors of Jersey Shore and Northern Mayors who have constituents that travel to Jersey Shore. They need to create the coalition and do some research into demographics, travel tourism as well as those commuting.
- Mike got some information that they were slating more dual engines trains to come down here and those trains have been ordered.
- Question for City – how is the train station here is managed? Public Works and Police Dept say it's a homeless center. It's hard to understand what the hours of the train station are, if it's open or not open.
- Per Donna, City goal is to have more commerce in the center and coupled with new parking garage enhancements and improvement to get it more active.

9) Manayunk Magazine

- Adam brought a copy in. It's a quarterly magazine that that includes what's happening in town. Looking into if this is something that Asbury Park would like to do.

10) Street Poles

- What is the process? What banners in the City can be used?
- Have Manzella ask DOT if we can put sign holders on their poles down Main Street.
- Chamber had gotten pricing. Approx \$130 a two sided banner by Syracuse