

# BUSINESS COMMITTEE 2019

---

19 February 2020 / 10:00 AM / City Manager's Conference Room

ATTENDEES: Bianca Freda (Co-Chair), Kathy Kelly (Co-Chair), Phyllis Maffucci (Secretary), Amy Quinn (Deputy Mayor), Donna Vieiro (Interim City Manager), Larry Dembrun, Reggie Flimlin, Jenn Hampton, Austin Leopold, Chris Zatorski, Sonia Spina

ABSENT: Robin Elliott Preston, Isaac Jones, Russell Lewis, Adam Nelson Marilyn Schlossbach, Jacki Sharpe, Jamie Soto, Sylvia Sylvia-Coffi

GUESTS: Ben Ross, Mike Manzella (Deputy City Manager, Transportation Director), Bille Rama AP Cotton Candy Company, Matt Whelan AP Chamber

## AGENDA

### Attendance / Approval of Minutes for January

#### 1. Deputy Mayor/Transportation Director Mike Manzella:

- Updates on parking garage and Main Street revitalization.
  - The Bangs Avenue garage has extended hours – Friday 6 pm – midnight, Saturday 8:30 am – 2:30 am, Sunday 8:00 am – midnight. (see flyer). Also, hired a third attendant. Spread the word through social media.
  - The new parking garage on Transportation Center lot will accommodate parking for 542 cars. The city will revitalize the walking path from Cookman to the Transportation Center. Construction will begin in the fall of 2020, completion expected by mid-year of 2021.
  - Will have sustainable aspects – solar energy panels on roof, enhanced rain garden, and electric charging stations.
- Train Schedule changes/improvements.
  - More dual powered trains in (2 in May/June) 2020. Will eliminate change trains in Long Branch.
  - Suggests writing letters to CEO of NJ Transit about needing trains in Asbury Park.
- Street Pole Process / Signs on Main St. = City owns poles on Cookman Ave. JCPL owns on Main Street. Go through City Hall for application on Cookman. AP Chamber of Commerce handles poles on Main Street.
  - Mike Manzella just promoted to Deputy City Manager.

#### 2. Sub-Committee Report: Pie in the Sky:

- Transportation – Russell has a letter that can be used as a template for other businesses to use. Reggie will send out letter.
- Next parking meeting is Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in City Manager's conference room. (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month).

### 3. **Sub-Committee Report: Boots on the Ground:**

- Block Captains – looking for block captains who can be liaisons to the businesses in the downtown and other areas.
- GSFF Kickoff Party at Modine's. Will be the pick up / drop off location for the Trolley.

### 4. **Plastic Bag Recap:**

- Not required to charge for bags. Can charge between 10 – 23 cents for bags, up to individual business owners. Ordinance suggests the businesses to use the money to benefit the community.

### 5. **2020 Officer Elections:**

- Kathy and Bianca would like to continue to be Co-chairs for another year.
- Phyllis has been Secretary for two years and is passing the baton. There will be a monthly rotation for the role of Secretary. There will be a template made for the agenda so you can just fill in the blanks.
- Doing in accordance of alphabetical order. Larry will be Secretary for the month of March.

### 6. **Goals for 2020:**

- Kathy and Bianca proposed a discussion on what the big picture is for 2020. They would like to combine all the businesses together in one community, rather than have separate communities.

### 7. **Public Portion:**

- Reggie asked about parades, would like to see a Mardi Gras parade, feels it would best represent AP. Backward glances does a pet parade. Last year they raised \$80,000 to donate for worthy causes.
- Amy suggested the committee look into Tera-Cycle, (taking products/garbage and re-purposing them, by turning it into art.) Response: There is a green team that oversees recycle materials.
- Women's Convention – to be held on 3/14-3/15 this year at House of Independence to coincide with the anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The theme this year is to highlight women owned businesses. Send an email to Amy if you want to be on the map. Will also be honoring the Women who are heading "Springwood Avenue Rising".

- Meeting adjourned 11:01 am
- Minutes taken by: Phyllis Maffucci

### UPDATE FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>:

We are still waiting to hear back from JCP&L regarding signage on Main Street. I'll send that information along when I receive it.

In the meantime, some other information that was requested in our meeting below:

1. Green Committee – 2020 Remaining Meeting Dates below.  
Meetings are open the public and take place in the City Manager's Conference Room

- Mar 10, 2020 5:30- 6:30 pm
- April 7, 2020 12-1 pm
- July 14, 2020 12-1 pm
- October 13, 2020 12-1 pm

2. Plastic Bag Ban Question on Tax / Full Q&A Link

- “As a retailer, do I have to charge tax on paper and reusable bags? Yes, according to the NJ Division of Taxation retailers must charge a tax on both paper bags and reusable bags as they are tangible goods for sale.”
- Full Q&A here: <https://www.cityofasburypark.com/372/Plastic-Bag-Ban>

3. Committee Secretary

As mentioned Phyllis will be stepping down as Secretary (Thank you Phyllis for all of your hard work!).

Instead of electing a new Secretary, the committee has agreed that members will rotate each month and take turns to do the monthly minutes. A template will be provided.

Thanks,  
Sonia

UPDATE FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup>:

Missed Action Item to: Pie in The Sky asked to create a letter of request by business owners for dual locomotive consideration.

Update: Letter is under final review.

Outcome/Timeline: Distribute to Biz Committee Co-Chairs tomorrow for approval.

Question: Upon approval, where should the letter be sent for email distribution

As well, do we intend to collect the letters from business owners, and pass along in our future meetings with State / Local government entities or are we considering an email response link for businesses to directly communicate with NJ Transit and State reps?

Thoughts would be appreciated.

Bright Sunny Day,

Reggie

UPDATES COMPLETE.

**Next Meeting Date March 18, 2020 @ 10 am.**