

# BUSINESS COMMITTEE 2019

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20 March 2019 / 10:00 AM / City Manager's Conference Room

## ATTENDEES

Bianca Freda, (Co-Chair) Kathy Kelly, (Co-Chair) Amy Quinn, (Deputy Mayor) Austin Leopold, Russell Lewis, Jenn Hampton, Jacki Sharpe, Adam Nelson, Regine Flimlin, Phyllis Maffucci, Sonia Spina

ABSENT: Sylvia Sylvania-Cioffi, Isaac Jones, Larry Dembrun, Marilyn Schlossbach

GUESTS:, Genise Huges-speaker, Deborah Sylvania-speaker, Arthur Schlossbach, Chris Zaturski

## AGENDA

### February minutes were approved.

1. **Guest Speakers** - Genise Huges and Deborah Sylvania, spoke about the Asbury Park school districts College and Career Readiness Institute. The students of APHS have participated in various job and career readiness workshops. These programs prepare students for various employment opportunities.

The high school has implemented 4 new career academies, including a performing arts academy. The academy is looking for people to help in the area of performing arts, including set design, lighting, etc. Students will receive college credits for classes taken in the academy.

The career related programs are set up so students can learn and work with a 9-12 schedule. Employers will also be reimbursed a portion of the wages paid to the students in the program.

The high school is also having a career day on Thursday, April 4th from 7:45 am to 10:00 am and are looking for people/business owners to give presentations. They will also be holding a job fair in the High School Gymnasium on April 4th from 11 am to 3 pm. Businesses are invited to

participate by setting up a table with information about their business and answer questions from students and seek potential employee candidates. If anyone is interested in either of these programs they can reach out to **Genise Hughes at 732.776.2638 ext.2648. Or Yvose J. Damour 732.776.2638 ext. 2628.**

2. **Interfaith Workforce Development Program** - Similar to the APHS career and college readiness program, the Workforce Development program focus' on youth between the ages of 16-24 who have dropped out of school. The program partners with Brookdale Community College where students can learn while they earn. Get paid to work and get their GED. And also continue on to receive a college degree.

There are 108 students in need and The Workforce Development program is looking for businesses who will participate in the program by hiring the youth. There is structure to the program and well as a reimbursement component that will give the employer 75% of wages paid to the youth.

The program is for 3 months with an option to renew for another 3 months if they are happy with the youth.

3. **Introduction of Sub-Committees** - It is believed by the Co-Chairs that the business committee was formed with a dual purpose:
  - The development of infrastructure for the business community.
  - As a resource for businesses and providing information.

In order to accomplish this mission the Business Committee will now be comprised of two sub-groups. The sub-groups will each meet once a month and come up with an action plan that meets the goals and objectives of their individual sub-groups and the overall goals of the committee.

- a. Street level - communicating with businesses and creating a joint marketing fund.
- b. Long Range Goals - developing a plan of growth for AP commerce and identifying solutions to current problems.

The two sub-groups will report to the business committee as a whole at the regular monthly meetings which will become an information sharing session.

A motion was called to approve. The motion was seconded.

A sign-up sheet was sent around for committee members to join their preferred sub-group. The sub-groups are open to both committee members and non-committee members.

**4. Communication Protocol** - a discussion took place regarding the proper way for the committee to communicate through email without violating the Open Public Meetings Act. A hand out was provided to the committee with details outlining proper communication procedures through email. As well as a description of what constitutes a violation of ethics law.

It was also noted that anyone can sign up to receive email notice about committee meetings they are interested in.

**5. Open Discussion** -

A list of all the events, both the Chamber of Commerce and other City wide events throughout the year, was provided by the Chamber as requested at last months meeting.

A request was made to get a list of all the registered businesses in town. It was announced that the new city website will be launching very soon and once up and running will soon have a list of all the businesses in town with addresses and contact info.

There will also be a calendar of city wide events along with a community calendar where anyone can submit an event as long as it meets the parameters.

According to Madison Marquette there will be two new businesses coming to the boardwalk: a gourmet hot dog concession near the First Avenue pavilion and a Pizza concession in place of Hoagitos. The Iron Whale, (new restaurant coming to the 5th Avenue pavilion) will be opening on May 1st. The band-shell does not have a delivery date yet for this season.

A question was asked about the possibility of the Casino building being reconstructed. It was noted that the Casino building was not built the same as the Paramount Theater and Convention Hall were constructed, the intention was for it to be seasonal only. The building does not have the infrastructure to support a renovation.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Sub-groups will meet and report back to the committee in April.

## PUBLIC PORTION

- None

Meeting Adjourned @ 11:02 am

**Next Meeting Date April 17, 2019 @ 10 am**