

March 3 Business Association meeting highlights:

Next meeting Thursday March 29

Attendees:

Rick Tamburo – Victoriana East; Jonathan Stites – Cabana Water Ice; Mark Shiffman – American Karate Systems; Eileen Cuzzupe - Fabric Works; Joe Cuzzupe – JA Cuzzupe; Jennifer Perno – Therasport; Mike Kearney – The Wild Pickle; Elaine & Bob Paulson – Wellspring Health; Brooks & Randy Oakford - Aunt Charlottes; Mr. Patel – Michael’s Liquors, Tom Evaul & Bill Walker from the Merchantville Observer and Councilman Steve Volkert.

Introduction of attendees were made and additional contacts were added to the address list. Others businesses and professionals that could not attend had forward their contact information.

Information was made available such as:

1. Borough Council meeting schedule
2. Public Events schedule (tentative) & Car Show flyer
3. Draft of the revised sign ordinance (a better defined Draft of the ordinance is attached to this email)

The meeting was opened up to discuss the following issues.

1. Parking
 - a. Revisit the parking meter times
 - b. Better enforcement of meters
 - c. Revisit the Downtown parking study
 - d. Restaurant delivery vehicle parking concerns

Followup: Up to 5 additional metered parking spaces will be added by the end of March. These spaces will be in the Centre (3) & Maple (2) area. In the West Maple District, a recent recommendation from the Borough’s Planner to allow parking on both sides of Poplar Ave. will be discussed at an upcoming Council meeting.

2. Signage

- a. Streamlined application ie: a no meeting application when it pertains to signage.
- b. Height/better visibility of signs.
- c. A new business packet outlining codes & what modifications can be made.

3. Lighting

- a. Mark Shiffman noted that the streetlight at Station Lane & Chestnut Ave. has been out for a substantial amount of time. There was a question as to the owner of the street light.

Follow up: The owner of the light is Conifer, the owner of Chestnut Station. Community Affairs officer Fred Koehler informs me that he sent a notification to Conifer that the light is their responsibility and needs to be changed or repaired.

4. Safety

- a. Speeders on streets. Namely N. Centre Street. While the flashing traffic speed monitor sign is helpful, it was requested that a Police presence would be better.

Additional meeting notes: Cabana Water Ice, 19 S Centre re-opened for the season on March 1.

Next Meeting: In order for other Business and Professionals to attend the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 29 at 7 pm in the Borough Hall.

*****Prior to the March 28 meeting, there will be a pre-meeting get together at Café Bella Vita at 6:15. Bella Vita is located at 43 S. Centre St. across from Borough Hall. Please plan to meet us with a slice of gourmet artisan Pizza and refreshments.*****

