



**VILLAGE CHAT - DOBBS FERRY, MARCH 21, 2023**  
**10:00am Zoom**

*In attendance: Jessica Galen - Bloomy (DF Village Trustee), Chris Tortu (Dobbs Ferry Karate / Village Rep), Vance Long (Chamber President), Dina Fleischman - (Chamber VP / Treasurer), Michelle Adams (Chamber Immediate Past President), Chris Vergara - Harper's on Main / St. George Bistro, Sivadasan Nair - TrustCo Bank, Sergio Pennacchio - Piccola Trattoria, Lucas Cioffi - Qiqo Chat*

- Parking challenges on Cedar and Main Streets. A new crosswalk at 41 Cedar Street resulted in the loss of four parking spots further impacting an already challenging parking situation.
- 5 new kiosks being installed for coin, cash, and credit card transactions. Any kiosk may be used to pay for any zone. New kiosk locations: Corner of Main & Oak St; 99 Main St; by the Library; 24&27 Cedar. Kiosks in the 3 parking lots will remain.
- Sergio suggested the business owners consider hiring a trolley to run at regular intervals Thur-Sun for 4-5 hours (during peak restaurant hours). Cost may be prohibitive. Jessica asked that proposals are collected first before approaching the Village.
- Vance asked if a valet service had been considered and Chris V. explained that The Rare Bit (now closed) tried to do that, prior to Covid, and found it very expensive.
- Chris V. asked if there is a way that the buses can be rerouted out of downtown. Michelle explained that it was attempted in the past (with the buses getting re-routed to Broadway) but the situation proved to be too dangerous.
- Chris T. asked about the events the Chamber is planning for the year. Michelle updated everyone on RPM which will be planned for 2024 because Irvington's 2023 calendar is already full. Chris T. suggested a "Downtown Dobbs Day" wherein businesses can offer discounts and other incentives for the day to draw people to the downtown and create interest. The suggestion was well-received and further discussion will take place.
- Vance noted how challenging it has been for businesses and the Chamber, specifically, to work with Dobbs Ferry. Jessica explained that there are plans in place, including the hiring of a new Village Manager and recruiting for a Downtown Advocate, which will improve communications between the Village, its businesses and the Chamber.