



VILLAGE CHAT - ARDSLEY, February 13, 2024
10:00am Zoom

In attendance: Mayor Nancy Kaboolian, Steve Edelstein (Ardsley Deputy Mayor, Trustee), Joe Cerretani (Ardsley Village Manager), Connie Gallo (Rand Realty/ Chamber Village Rep), Jena Schneider (True North Financial/Chamber Village Rep), Danielle Centofani-Davidson (Chamber President/Main Street Business Strategies. LLC), Dina Fleischman (Chamber Vice President/Oilladi), Frederick Childs (MVR Agency)

Meeting Notes:

- *Introduction of new Chamber Rep for the Village of Ardsley, Jena Schneider, of True North Financial*
- *Steve Edelstein recently named Liaison to Village Merchants and Business Owners. Currently getting familiar with local business owners along with new community policing officer*
- *With increase of restaurants based in Ardsley, Village Mayor would like to explore a "Taste of Ardsley" Day*
- *Need to explore ways to engage Ardsley businesses with more Chamber-sponsored events*
- *Steve will look to engage businesses in Ardsley-sponsored events, i.e. River Rock music school may be interested in having their teen bands open for some of the village concert series, etc.*
- *Connie suggested a brainstorming session with Steve and some Chamber exec board members to bring him up to speed on what the Chamber does and how we can help local businesses in Ardsley*
- *Something to think about - How can we learn about new businesses opening up in Ardsley? When new businesses are going through the permit process, Steve can potentially ask them to reach out to let him know once new businesses are ready to open. They don't currently have that information because business openings sometimes depend on factors external to the village, i.e. new deli and Ramen noodle shop are still waiting on County Department of Health inspections to open.*
- *Fred, of MVR, offered to walk with Chamber Rep Jena to meet new businesses. Will relay info on deli's new opening once he knows more (they are a client of theirs)*
- *Interest in bringing back Ardsley Day.*

- *Steve mentioned “space” as an issue for Ardsley Day. Taste of Ardsley idea may be better because businesses can stay in place and have customers come to them.*
- *Danielle did an overview of how Chamber can help with promotions, i.e. community events page on the Chamber website, re-posting of stories on social media whenever the Chamber is tagged, end-of-month Chamber newsletter*
- *Connie suggested that Ardsley add a “Chamber” section on the village newsletter on a regular basis. Mayor will circle back on that idea. Joe suggested Chamber send an idea of what a “Chamber” section would contain. Prefers to keep their communications Ardsley-focused. Mayor proposes “business highlight” as opposed to focusing on new members only. Chamber emphasized that non-brick and mortar businesses be included. Connie will connect with Danielle, Dina, and Chamber’s Executive Director to see what the content from the Chamber would be for the Ardsley newsletter. The village administration will then decide whether to move forward with the idea or not.*
- *Chamber Classroom series as new benefit to member businesses*
- *Steve mentioned Ardsley Market is planning an event for the Spring (Boar’s Head event). He suggested the Chamber reach out to them to see how the Chamber can assist.*
- *Rec events on website (summer concerts, food truck event, ice cream social)*
- *March 8th from 6-8pm - Eid Ramadan event with lighting of crescent moon in legion park with party/celebration at the community center*
- *March 10th - 2nd Spring Gardening event with Pollinator Pathway Group & Garden Club*
- *April 21st - Holy Event*
- *May 15th - AAPI event*
- *June 15th - Juneteeth Event*
- *June 23rd (Date TBD) Pride Event in coordination with Dobbs Ferry*
- *Series of monthly meetings for community quilt project (7 Sundays from April thru October) with textile artist. Not yet sure where the quilt(s) will be displayed, but they have some ideas in mind.*