



VILLAGE CHAT - ARDSLEY, April 9, 2024

10:00am Zoom

In attendance: Mayor Nancy Kaboolian, Steve Edelstein (Ardsley Deputy Mayor, Trustee, Liaison to Business District), Joe Cerretani (Ardsley Village Manager), Shiela Narayanan (Village Trustee), Connie Gallo (Rand Realty/ Chamber Village Rep), Jena Schneider (True North Financial/Chamber Village Rep), Danielle Centofanti-Davidson (Chamber President/Main Street Business Strategies, LLC), Frederick Childs (MVR Agency) Christine Triffon (PsychoTherapy and Yoga business)

Meeting Notes:

- MVR working on car show for Ardsley - Maybe on June 28, 2024
- Jena and Steve did a walking tour to meet new and existing business owners, in an effort to build a contact list for Ardsley businesses and introduce them to the Chamber.
- Danielle provided an overview of Chamber events: Women's Social on 5/9 and Taste Local on 5/18, Golf Open on September 16, Holiday Trolley
- Planned Village Events: Food Truck event, Holy celebration on 4/21, Juneteenth, Ice Cream social towards end of June, Coffee with a Cop event on 4/28, Multicultural Committee Event Story Quilt project, AAPI event on 5/23; Village events will be shared with Chamber
- Village Chat announcement was recently listed in the Village newsletter, which is great
- Only 7 Ardsley businesses are currently affiliated with the Chamber; the Chamber's goal is to increase awareness of the Chamber's efforts, thus increasing membership amongst Ardsley businesses
- Danielle detailed Chamber member benefits (sponsorship opportunities, networking opportunities, community building, business education with new monthly Chamber classroom series, member discounts, ribbon-cutting ceremonies, ability to link individual business newsletters in the Chamber newsletter, to increase exposure through social)
- Re: Taste Local - Kate is reaching out to individual businesses to get more Ardsley participants. Connie offered to assist with follow-ups in this regard.

Additional village updates:

- Village received a substantial grant that will assist with rehab in the downtown (if not this year, next year). May make sense to have conversations with businesses about the grant to get their thoughts before the planning stage starts; Connie suggested that such a meeting be in-person, perhaps at a local business.
- Expansion & rehabilitation for the Bridge Street parking lot is in the works, which will double the capacity in that parking lot

- Village Board is considering allowing 3-hour free parking in one particular zone of the downtown, so people can shop multiple businesses without worrying about parking
- Looking at adding additional sidewalks along Heatherdell Road and down Revolutionary Road, to provide connectivity from the downtown to the upper malls
- Conversations with the County about the south entrance to MACY park. Larger signage was added so people are aware that there is an entrance there. Looking at planting a pollinator garden around the sign to make it more visible and attractive. May do that in the Fall.
- Traffic study for Center Street for this month/next month to analyze pedestrian safety