



SOMERS POINT
NEW JERSEY
the shore starts here!

**CITY OF SOMERS POINT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
Monday, July 24, 2017
6:00 pm
Somers Point Historic Museum**

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Greg Sykora, Chair
Glenn Monroe, Vice Chair
Dennis Tapp, Councilman
Kirk Gerety, Councilman
Sue Seckinger
Ron Meischker
Mario Suarez
Pam Chamberlain

ABSENT: Maria Dever
Nichol Hoff
Tay Person
Ron Ralston

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm and Pledge of Allegiance was taken.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from June 26 were reviewed.

Motion: Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
Motion by: Glenn Monroe
Seconded by: Sue Seckinger
Motion carried.

Somers Point Mansion / Info Center – There was a meeting on July 23 at Somers Mansion with local and State representatives the State’s Historical Interpreter. Possible structural changes were discussed including removal of center wall to create classroom, addition of bathroom and moving entrance to rear of building. The State will also look into adding security cameras. Priority is to have outside of building painted. Waiting for suggestion of period appropriate colors.

Parking Regs White Paper – It was decided to take no action. Somers Point Restaurant Association can address this if they would like.

New Business Signs / Clings – Waiting for list of mercantile licenses from Lucy Samuelson. In the interim Pam will compile costs to have 300 clings mailed with letter and magnet.

Facebook Promotion Money – No events were promoted this month. Gateway Playhouse opening will be promoted next. Facebook page is doing well and picking up likes on its own.

Angler’s Festival – Development of this event will be postponed in favor of focusing on Horsepower by the Bay.

Historical Society / Car Show Request – Kirk feels that Horsepower by the Bay can be expanded substantially due to the discontinuation of the Pumpkin Run. They would like to make this a three day event with a concert, hot rod themed movies or other similar event on Friday. Saturday would include the car show and a “History Rally” where participants visit historic sites. The possibility of moving the car show from the Shore parking lot to Bay Avenue was also discussed. It was felt that this would increase the benefit local businesses.

Point to Point Bike Race – Sue left message for Ocean City Special Events Manager to gauge their level of interest and is waiting to hear back. It was decided to table this project until the Fall.

Website RFP – Bid from Suasion was selected, however, scope of work has changed to include “reskinning” the City website completing link to EDAC site and maintenance of the EDAC portion. Waiting for final dollar amount from Suasion so we can submit to Council.

Transient Marina Update – County stated that they were not aware and DEP asked for modifications. City Engineer is redesigning and we are trying to get an extension with the State.

Bike Share – no update

City Signs – It was noted that the Somers Point signs were power washed and the shrubs were trimmed.

Public Works will be installing clips under the Route 9 sign so that temporary signs can be hung underneath. This sign is also being moved closer to the southbound Parkway exit to increase visibility. Sue will have pricing for the temporary signs soon.

No update on digital sign.

Funding Applications – Funding applications were received from two local organizations:

1. Somers Point Restaurant Association: Requesting \$500 - \$1,000 to market Restaurant Week via print and radio ads.
Motion: Approval of up to \$1,000 in funding to be used for print and radio marketing of Somers Point Restaurant Week.
Motion by: Ron Meischker
Second by: Mario Suarez
Motion carried.

2. Somers Point Historical Society: Requesting \$2,500 to market Horsepower by the Bay via print and radio ads.
Motion: Approval of \$2,500 in funding to be used for print and radio marketing of Horsepower by the Bay.
Motion by: Ron Meischker
Second by: Mario Suarez

NEW BUSINESS:

Recreational Clamming Blue Law – “Blue law” banning clamming on Sundays was discussed.

Motion: Motion made that EDAC request Council pass a resolution allowing recreational clamming on Sundays and forward to State legislature.

Motion by: Ron Meischker

Second by: Sue Seckinger

Motion carried. Councilman Tapp agreed to present request at next Council meeting.

Clamming Event – Ron M advised that the Patcong Creek Foundation voted to move forward with a new clamming event in the Fall of 2018.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 21, 2017 at 6:00 pm