

## **Waldwick Chamber of Commerce General Meeting Minutes Date: May 15, 2024**

**Time:** 8:30 AM **Location:** Waldwick Library

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

- **Speaker:** Stan Kowalski, President & W5K Race Director
- Stan Kowalski welcomed attendees and conducted a round of introductions.
- **Attendees:** Mary Beth Nappi, Brian MacKey, Harris Morris, Carol Cuttler, Jim Zumbano, Jennifer Edelson, Neha Garcia, Chip Yerger, Julie Pignatelli, George Reskakis, Ernesto Enriquez,, Dora Karanikas, Barry Houldsworth, Nick Schreiber, Tracey Infield, Jennifer Miano, Taylor DeMaio, Maryellen Brusco, Khadka Walker, Karen Centauro, Giuseppe Casio, Dave Barthold.

### **2. Chamber Updates**

- **Motion to Dispense with Reading of Minutes:**
  - Motion made by Dave Barthold and seconded by Brian Mackey to dispense with reading the minutes from the April 17th meeting and to accept them as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Mayor Giordano Waldwick Borough Updates:**
  - Mayor Giordano provided updates on the borough, highlighting recent developments and upcoming initiatives.
- **Current Chamber Membership:**
  - Total Members: 105
    - Businesses within Waldwick: 75
    - Businesses outside of Waldwick: 30
    - Non-profit organizations: 19
- **New Members:**
  - Reflection Studio, Matthews Colonial Diner, Christian Health, Philly Pretzel Factory, The Bristol at Waldwick, Edward Jones Financial, My Preferred Organizer, The Learning Experience, Crossfit Waldwick, Supportive Financial LLC

### **3. Upcoming Events**

- **May 17:** Grand Opening of Silver & Gold Emporium at 1:00 PM (time updated from noon).
- **May 18:** Gong & Sound Bath at Angry Orchard Cider House.
- **May 22:** Autumn Years 10-Year Anniversary Expo at Crestwood Lake. Registration available at [autumnyearsmag.com/expo](http://autumnyearsmag.com/expo).
- **June 2:** Waldwick Community Alliance Car Show from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

- **June 4:** Tentative Grand Opening of Charlie's Place.
  - Note: Combined networking event, grand opening, and summer holiday party on June 6 at 5:00 PM.
- **May 27:** Memorial Day Parade with lineup on MacKay.
- **Chamber Newsletter:** Check weekly updates for more events and details.

#### 4. On the Horizon

- **Summer Business passport Contest:**
  - Jennifer & Tracey discussed the upcoming Passbook Summer Scavenger Hunt Contest, encouraging local businesses to participate. Various ways to engage the public include social media interactions, answering questions, making purchases, or visiting and taking selfies.
- **Taste of Waldwick / Restaurant Week:**
  - Planning is underway for the Taste of Waldwick and a potential Restaurant Week in September.

#### 5. Waldwick 5K Run

- **Event Summary:**
  - The 16th Annual W5K Run on May 5, 2024, was a success with 683 registered participants and approximately 1,000 attendees.
  - Special thanks to Mayor Giordano, the Waldwick Chamber of Commerce, Waldwick BOE, local departments, volunteers, sponsors, participants, and spectators.
  - **Participants:** 501 runners, 103 walkers.
  - **Sponsors:** 61 paid sponsors and 20 in-kind sponsors.
  - **Funds Raised:** \$3,576 donated to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation from 126 donors.
  - **Clean-up:** All clean-up activities were completed by 10:45 AM.
  - **Highlights:** Ernesto and his wife dressed up for Cinco de Mayo, which was a hit.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - W5K Run Committee wrap-up meeting on May 21st.
  - Donation Ceremony on June 19th at 8:30 AM at the Waldwick Library.

#### 6. Business Resources

- **SCORE:** Free mentoring and webinars available at [Score.org/northeastnj](https://www.score.org/northeastnj).
- **New Jersey Business Action Center:** Resources available at [NJ.gov/State/bac](https://www.nj.gov/State/bac) or by calling 1-800-Jersey-7.

#### 7. Additional Announcements

- **Firemen's Fundraiser:** Dave Barthold spoke about the Firemen's \$100 ticket fundraiser and encouraged purchasing tickets.
- **Library Activities:** Monday night beginner chess sessions for all ages.

**Next Chamber Meeting:** June 19th, 2024, at 8:30 AM at the Waldwick Library.

The meeting was adjourned following the completion of the agenda.