

Waldwick Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2025

Waldwick Public Library | 8:30 AM

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stan Kowalski, who introduced Mayor Giordano.

Mayor's Update

Mayor Tom Giordano provided an update on town affairs:

- The town is currently working on its budget, reviewing needs and wants with minimal cuts.
- The recent water main break on Route 17 has been fixed.
- A committee has been formed to address ongoing water and sewer authority issues.
- Town concerts and holiday celebrations will continue as scheduled.
- Waldwick will hold its first Ramadan Crescent Lighting Ceremony on February 27, 2025, at the Waldwick Public Library.

Chamber Updates

- **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to dispense with the reading of the January 15th meeting minutes and approve them was made by Dave Barthold and Chuck Farricker. Motion approved.
- **Elections for the Executive & Board Positions:**
 - President: Stan Kowalski
 - Co-Vice Presidents: Dave Barthold & Julie Pignatelli
 - Treasurer: Giuseppe Cascio
 - Chamber Administrator: Mary Beth Nappi
 - Board Members: Brian Mackey, Christine Figliuolo, Karen Centauro, Carol Cuttita, Natalia Arciszewski, Barbara Hand, George Reskakis, Neha Garcia, Nick Stratton, Chuck Farricker
 - Motion to approve Mary Beth Nappi as Administrator was made by Dave Barthold and Chuck Farricker. Motion approved.
 - Motion to approve Executives & Board Positions by Chamber Administrator, Mary Beth Nappi
- **Membership Update:**
 - Current Membership: 125 (103 business members, 22 non-profits)
 - 26 New Members since February 17, 2024
 - 39 Regional Members
 - **Newest Member:** Perusia Restaurant welcomed
 - **Feature Member of the Month:** Open for nominations – members encouraged to email info@waldwickchamber.com

Guest Speaker

Curtis Springstead – Waldwick Signal Tower

- Provided a historical overview of the Waldwick Signal Tower.
- A Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for restoration & maintenance begins April 1, 2025.
- A public art contest was held, and a Danish couple's artwork was selected for display. Watch to see the artwork displayed at the tower when you pass by!
- Members were encouraged to help spread the word.

Member Introductions & Upcoming Events

Stan Kowalski invited members to introduce themselves and share upcoming events:

- **AIM Conference "Unstoppable"** – February 28 at Crystal Springs Resort, featuring six guest speakers and life coaches. (Christine Figliuolo)
- **Allendale/Saddle River Rotary Gala** – Sold out event.
- **Grand Relocation Opening – Coban Computer Solutions** – March 7, moving to a larger office.
- **Alzheimer's Walk Kickoff** – March 22, hosted by Jim Prussack at Applause Care.
- **Dueling Pianos for Families 4 Families** – March 20, seeking sponsors.
- **Families 4 Families Bin Drive** – Collecting shampoo, body wash, paper products, food, and mattress sponsorships (\$78 each).
- **Bergen Volunteers** – Offering free senior citizen services.
- **Bombay Hut & TEEEM Fundraiser (March 2025)** – Neha Garcia partnering with Waldwick High School and Kenya students on a STEM project; 30% of proceeds benefit the program.

Down the Road

- **Taste of Waldwick** – Potential venue change to Village School Cafeteria, providing more space. A grill will be given away as a door prize. Event set for Fall 2025.
- **Waldwick Passport Event** – Continuing in 2025, details forthcoming.

17th Annual W5K Run

- **May 4, 2025** (Star Wars theme) May the 4th Be With You
- 66 runners and 4 walkers registered so far.
- Next W5K Committee Meeting: February 24, 2025.
- 2024 W5K raised \$42,000 for 40 organizations.
- Banner going up soon.
- Sponsor registration forms are available.

Business Resources

- **SCORE:** www.score.org/northeastnj
- **NJ Business Action Center:** 1-800-Jersey-7 | NJ.Gov/State/bac

Attendance

- Stan Kowalski (5K Director)
- Giuseppe Cascio (Provident Bank)
- Mary Beth Nappi (Terrie O'Connor Realtors)
- Jessica Colon (Freedom Bank)
- Dave Barthold (Christie's)
- Chuck Farricker (VFW/5K)
- Barry Holdsworth (Auro Aerial Media)
- Brian Mackey (CruisePlanners)
- Jim Prussack (Applause Care)
- Kristen Perry (Heritage WBE Inc.)
- Karen Centauro (SERVPRO)
- Julie Pignatelli (Generation 3 Inc.)
- Kathryn Yannafre (Sir Junk)
- Ernesto Enriquez (Bagel Bros II)
- Jim Coban (Coban Computer Solutions)
- George Reskakis (5K & Bergen Volunteers)
- Tracy Infield (Astoria Ltr.com)
- Neil Bortolus (Esteem BioMechanics)
- Cristyn Madley (Families 4 Families)
- Curtis Springstead (Waldwick Historical Society)
- Gregg Butler (SCORE)
- Natalia Arciszewski (Design Drafting & Drawing LLC)
- Jennifer Edeson & Joel Wesseldyke (JJ Travel)
- Christine Figliuolo (Events by Christine)
- Lori Quinn (Waldwick Library)

Next Meeting

April 17, 2025 – Waldwick Library, 8:30 AM

Contact Information:

Waldwick Chamber of Commerce

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Meeting adjourned.