

## **TUXEDO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Members Present:** Noel Jablonski, Angelheart Antiques  
Ji Hun Jeon and Grace Choi, AMD Factory  
Dale Mottola, Applied Systems Group  
Jerry Mottola, Jerico/ U.S.P.S  
Natalie Pearson, Keeper Stores  
Gina Blomkamp, LiveTechnology  
Paul and Regina Maloney, Outback Choppers  
Rev. Betty McWhorter, St Mary's Episcopal Church  
Jennifer Hartley, Taverna Tuxedo  
Lt. Dave Gannon, Town of Tuxedo Police  
Bob Thompson, Tuxedo Park Preferred Properties  
Jim Burger, Tuxedo Park School  
Andrew Berish, Tuxedo Silver Dollars  
Diane Petrosky, Tuxedo Union Free School District

**Others Present:** Joseph Zanetti, Superintendent, Tuxedo Union Free School District  
Denis Petrilak, Principal, George Baker High School  
Frank Accetta, Guidance Counselor, George Baker High School  
Korkean Dulgerian, Student, George Baker High School  
Ann Marie Campbell, Student, George Baker High School  
Lindsey Diffley, Student, George Baker High School

**Call to Order:** Dale Mottola, President, called the regular monthly meeting of the Tuxedo Chamber of Commerce to order at 5:38PM on Wednesday, May 7th, 2008 at the George Grant Mason Cafetorium.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and approved by a unanimous vote.

#### **Spotlight on Business: Tuxedo School District**

Joseph Zanetti explained the internship program called New Visions. This program which runs through BOCES encompasses all the school districts in Orange County. Mr. Petrilak explained that the program takes seniors and prepares them and enhances them for college. It also gives them hands-on experience in the workplace. Mr. Accetta also noted that these students start college curriculum and earn college credits. These students must maintain 3.0 average and other state requirements. 10% of the seniors are in the program.

Students from the High School explained how they participate in the program and the benefits of the program. It gives them an up close examination of the field in which they have and interest.

Lt. Gannon from the Town of Tuxedo Police Department explained that they participate in a Ride-Along program under a regular BOCES curriculum, where students get to accompany an Officer while on duty.

There was some discussion on how the Chamber and School District could formalize an internship program, so that local businesses could provide internship as well as job opportunities for students participating in the New Visions program, as well as other students. Local businesses should feel free to contact Mr. Petrilak at 845-351-4786 if there are particular skills of interest to them.

**Financial Report:** Dale provided balance sheets to the Chamber Members as of May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Final Report on Tuxedo Clean Sweep:** Dale reported that there were 240 shirts made and that 240 shirts were given away. There was great participation and it was a huge success. It will be considered again for next year.

**Update on 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Outing:** Jerry reiterated that the outing will take place at the Tuxedo Club 9/4/08. Jerry is currently working on prizes and is hoping to have the executive director of the MGA in attendance. The more participation the better as it will help benefit the 911 fund, the Ambulance Corp and one way or another, benefit the community. If you need brochures to display at your business please ask Jerry. Dale is accepting donations/prizes or any other sponsorship opportunities.

**Decorative Banners:** Dale explained that the Chamber needed to order 4 more banners to make the full 12 downtown and 3 in Southfields. All spots have been taken and banners will be up before Memorial Day.

**Discussion on Electronics Recycling Event:** Dale stated that she is trying to arrange the event for a Saturday during the Farmer's Market season so that there would be more visibility.

**Discussion on July and August Meetings:** Dale suggested having the meeting at Taverna Tuxedo. Jennifer agreed to the proposal for August 6<sup>th</sup>. Dale explained that the July meeting will fall on July 2<sup>nd</sup> with a possible barbecue. Paul Maloney suggested his place at Outback Choppers.

**Other Business:** Dale noted that the Little League spoke about having an outing with HV Renegades. The cost for the outing is \$6 per person on 6/26/08. Each child will get a t-shirt and the Tuxedo Little League will be the Baseball Buddies that day. Dale will be sending out a flyer via email.

Dale also received a notice from Tuxedo Park Portfolio for special local business rates. Dale will also send an email on the discount.

The TPAG concert for May 24<sup>th</sup> is at the Haber House Gardens. \$10 for advanced tickets. Tickets are also available for purchase at Tuxedo Park Preferred Properties.

**Adjournment: 7:22PM**