

Bayville Economic Development Group

Following Paul Rupp's election as Mayor, many residents of our Village contacted and expressed to him and the Board of Trustees their interest in helping to 1) remove the eyesores such as the former Pig 'N Whistle and Steve's Pier One properties and 2) find a way to attract new and successful businesses to our Village in an attempt to fill the many vacant commercial properties.

From those shared requests, the Bayville Economic Development Group was born. Mayor Rupp contacted those individuals who had been in touch with him and arranged for our group to meet at the new Soundview Caterers. To date our group of approximately twenty-two individuals has met on three occasions to discuss how and when to go about reaching the goals that we all seek. Our group is comprised of Bayville residents/business owners from many diverse walks of life and different age groups, who seek only to improve the appearance of our Village and to attempt to entice diverse businesses to see the value of doing business in Bayville. In turn, we will later urge all residents to make use of these businesses to insure their long-term success.

In our group we have residents who have lived here for many years, with grown children, as well as people who have recently moved to Bayville, with younger families. As a result, the Economic Development Group represents an excellent cross section of residents, some of whom work, others who are retired and some who own businesses in our unique Village. But we all share one common image; that being to see visual improvements in Bayville, as well as the growth of successful businesses that all residents will be proud of. We also realize that we have a fine line to walk between over-commercialization and retaining the idyllic Bayville way of life we all want to continue to enjoy. You may rest assured that both of these goals have been recognized and will be realized. We have all seen the fine results of the work our Village Beautification has already done, and we want to see that type of work continue until the entire Village enjoys changes similar to those.

We are happy to report on some improvements that have already been suggested. For example, the Village has received a proposal from one of the new owners of the Steve's Pier One property, Craig Kirsch, to build a Bed and Breakfast structure, small restaurant and coffee shop on the sound side of that property. In addition, the new owners have pledged to build and maintain a small, eye friendly Village park on the corner of the property on the other side of Bayville Avenue, a portion of which will be utilized as a parking facility for this new business, just as it was in the past for Steve's Pier. This is only the first of what we envision will be many positive changes for the Village.

We also realize that with any change there may also be trepidation created in the minds of some residents that our way and quality of life will change, and not for the better. We want to insure you that will *not* be the case. As previously stated, our members come from many diverse backgrounds, beliefs and political persuasions, yet we all share the one common goal of improving Bayville—period.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We will update you on events as we proceed.

Bayville Economic Development Group

12/1/2015