

BQA MEMEBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULED

Please mark your calendars now!

**Thursday, April 30, 2009
6 PM at Annie's Paramount
Steak & Seafood Restaurant**

No Cost For Members!

RSVP by calling 410-643-6288

Or email administrator@businessqueenannes.com

Guest Fee: \$25

*(Which will be deducted from their
Membership Dues if they join that evening!)*

See story on page 2 regarding

New Member Stimulus Rate!!

LETTER TO THE COMMISSIONERS

BQA President, Mareen Waterman, sent the following letter to the County Commissioners at the end of January.

Dear Commissioners:

As you are aware, at many public hearings individuals speak after identifying themselves as representing groups.

In order for the Public, as well as the County Commissioners, to properly assess such testimony, there should be a requirement that each such group submit its membership roster, together with its contribution lists, and minutes of the meeting which authorized the testimony to be given. Those minutes should include the names of all those who attended the meeting, together with the date and location of the meeting.

LETTER TO THE COMMISSIONERS...contd

Groups quoting from surveys should be required to reveal who did the survey, who wrote the survey questions, who selected the people to be surveyed, how many people were surveyed and how many of them were Queen Anne's County Citizens.

If we are to have an Open Government, we believe this to be an essential part of it, and it should apply to all who testify before the County Commissioners, the Planning Commission and the Board of Appeals.

The Chamber of Commerce, The Farm Bureau, Business Queen Anne's, Volunteer Fire Departments, etc., all have readily available rosters of membership and would not be likely to object to revealing sources.

Some of the groups which testify represent themselves as local, whereas they represent very few Queen Anne's County citizens.

We request that you introduce such legislation and are prepared to have a competent attorney draft such a Bill. We will engage one promptly after notice that you will sponsor it.

Respectfully,

Mareen D Waterman

Mareen D. Waterman
BQA Chairman





RUBY TUESDAY UPDATE

The Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County ruled on 4/4/09 to reverse the Board of Appeals of Queen Anne's County's decision to deny Ruby Tuesday's site plan. The Court's finding states "The Board itself acknowledged that citizen testimony was mostly naked opinion unsupported by facts..." Additionally, the Court found that "...their opinions are subjective and not much more than a guess."

Reference: Civil Action#17-C-08-013283 in the Circuit Court for Queen Anne's County.

WYE MILLS CAC UPDATE

The letter below was sent to the County Planning Commission by BQA Board Member, Mike Dahle. Copies were sent to the Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Commission.

Q.A.C. Planning Commission
160 Coursevall Drive
Centreville, MD 21617

February 12, 2009

To Q.A.C. Planning Commission:

I am the land owner and run my business, Bay Carpets, at 300 Centreville Road in Wye Mills. I have attended most of the Wye Mills CAC Meetings during 2008. It was my belief that this CAC advisory group was established not to determine whether or not we need a plan, but to develop a plan to create an area for a business park to synergize with Chesapeake Community College to create job and economic growth for ALL of Queen Annes County. In order for this to take place, one can not spot zone but must incorporate the Wye Mills area as a whole into the planning process.

As an observer during the QAC advisory meetings, much discussion was done during every aspect of the plan. Is it perfect? No, but it was the consensus of the group. My opinion is that by doing nothing, you do a great disservice to the Wye Mills Community and Queen Annes County as a whole. Please proceed with the existing Why Mills Area Advisory Report as it stands and allow the process to continue. The future of Queen Annes County will depend on commercial tax revenues generated from this plan and the jobs it will create.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Dahle
MJD/dac

Kent Narrows Development Foundation Report

By KNDF Chairman & BQA Board Member

Bob Wilson

1. Kent Narrows Community Plan - The amendments have been adopted by the County Commissioners. The plan went through the CAC process and Kent Narrows Development Board taking approximately 2 1/2 years to its final approval. There was a good cross section of people involved in the process. Most of the amendments were cleaning up vague or ambiguous parts of the Code as well as changing the parking regulations.

2. Bistro Restaurant - The Board gave preliminary approval for this project. This is a new restaurant to be located at the south point of Wells Cove between Harrison Yacht Sales and the Wells Cove public landing. Previously approved work to do site improvements to the Wells Cove public parking in conjunction with the Bistro Restaurant includes site work to raise the elevation and cure drainage problems. The area has been re-paved and new walkways for public access have been provided. This also allows for additional green space and landscaping. Additional parking was also provided on Wells Cove Road opposite the Hilton Garden Inn. The work is about 90% completed and is a welcome improvement to the Kent Narrows. These improvements were funded by the Developer of the Bistro Restaurant and the parking on Wells Cove Road was funded by The Jetty.

3. Fishermens Village - This project received 'concept' approval to build out a banquet facility, hotel, mixed-use office buildings and potential residential units. The project has also received site plan approval by the QA County Planning and Zoning Commission as well as water and sewer approval. The project location is where the former Warehouse Creek Yachts Sales was located on both sides of Kent Narrows Way South and the property formerly known as the Angler's Restaurant and Marina.

4. The property located between the Kent Narrows launching ramp and Piney Narrows Marina had received preliminary approval to build out 48 townhouses. This townhouse project was originally submitted by Beazer Homes and the land was owned by Bay East Development. Beazer Homes has rescinded their purchase contract at this time. Bay East Development has informed us that they intend to go forward with the development. They have recently submitted plans changing several of the townhouse units to mixed-use buildings. At a recent meeting, a Representative of Bay East Development also advised us that they would designate five units to be sold as critical workforce housing. They also submitted that they were applying for a dredge spoil site permit to deposit material from dredging along their shore line to create boat slips.

5. The Board was informed by Steve Walls of Parks and Recreation that they had received approval and grant money to go forward with an extension of the Cross Island Trail. This extension would start at Kent Narrows Way North near the Holiday Inn Express and be extended down to the county park located near Holly's Restaurant.

6. Sign Improvements - The KNDF is currently in the process of renovating all directional sign boards in the Kent Narrows that provide the name and location of the businesses and attractions in the Kent Narrows. New contracts are being drawn up by the county and the funds will be used to restore the signs as well as adding new businesses.

7. County Water System - The Board has reviewed on many occasions the public water system provided by the County. A lot of the water system is from developments that turned over their system to the County at various locations over many years. In a recent discussion with Todd Mohn, Public Works Director, he advised that the County is doing a review of all the water systems and to possibly integrate water systems on Kent Island with the system on the Grasonville side of the Kent Narrows.

...Continued next page

The KNDF recognizes there may be the need for a water tower with the potential of the new projects [The Bistro Restaurant, Fishermen’s Village and the Bay East Development].

8. Dry Hydrants Provided for Fire Department Access - Several years ago dry hydrants were installed in three locations around the Kent Narrows with one still to be installed. These are piping that would allow a County fire engine to hook up to and draft water from the Kent Narrows to support firefighting. There are fire hydrants available on the county water system located in the Grasonville side of the Kent Narrows yet are not available at all locations needed. The existing dry hydrants have not been maintained. There is a question as to whose responsibility it is to maintain these hydrants. A letter was sent to the County Administrator, John Borders, who in turn has sent a letter to various department heads and the volunteer fire companies to resolve this situation.

BQA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee is also looking to expand! Any member of Business Queen Anne’s interested in serving on the membership committee should contact Membership Chair, Cecile Weich at 410-604-1111.

If you lack the time to make a permanent commitment to the membership committee, you can help out by signing up ONE new member. Print out the membership application in this newsletter and carry it with you until you’ve gotten someone to complete it!

NEW MEMBERSHIP STIMULUS RATE!!

It is more important than ever that the business community stand united and now it’s easier than ever to join Business Queen Anne’s!

You’ll note that the membership application below has a new membership stimulus flat rate of \$150...this rate will cover a new membership until July 31, 2010!

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT...



Proposed County Ordinance 09-03

Currently, any building plan consisting of 10,000 sq. ft. or less is not required to undergo a Major Site Plan approval. The proposed Ordinance would reduce the size to 5000 sq. ft. or more. Thereby subjecting small development to substantial increase in costs and bureaucracy.

House Bill 1116 (Smart Growth - Visions and Performance Standards):

Mr. Waterman will be writing a letter from BQA opposing this bill. Here is a synopsis of the bill:

Altering the visions for land use plans; establishing performance standards to measure the achievement of the visions; requiring a plan to enable a local jurisdiction to meet specified performance standards on or before October 1, 2018; requiring a local jurisdiction to demonstrate to the Department of Planning by October 1, 2012, that the plan will achieve the performance standards by October 1, 2018; etc.

BQA BOARD OPENINGS

We’re looking for a few good... Business People!!

The Business Queen Anne’s Board of Directors has a couple of openings so anyone interested in serving a three year term, please contact Mareen Waterman at 410-643-5005.

BUSINESS

Queen Anne's

P.O. Box 1065, Stevensville, MD 21666
Phone: 410-643-6288 Fax: 410-643-6278
www.businessqueenannes.com

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of BUSINESS Queen Anne's is to actively advocate sound economic growth; review proposed State and local legislation and regulations as they pertain to business; provide an objective assessment of proposed development in Queen Anne's County and it's incorporated towns; endorse and support countywide growth that is well managed and consistent with adopted State and local planning and regulatory guidelines, comprehensive plans, and State and local initiatives; create positive and constructive relationships on behalf of the business community with our elected and appointed officials; and support business activity that promotes and encourages a vibrant economy, development of an adequate labor pool, a fiscally responsible and accountable County government, and a continued unique quality of life in Queen Anne's County.

YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS WHEN PAYING YOUR MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT!

You may select a sponsorship level rather than choose a level of support based upon number of employees. By becoming a sponsor, your additional commitment to the organization will further support our continued success!

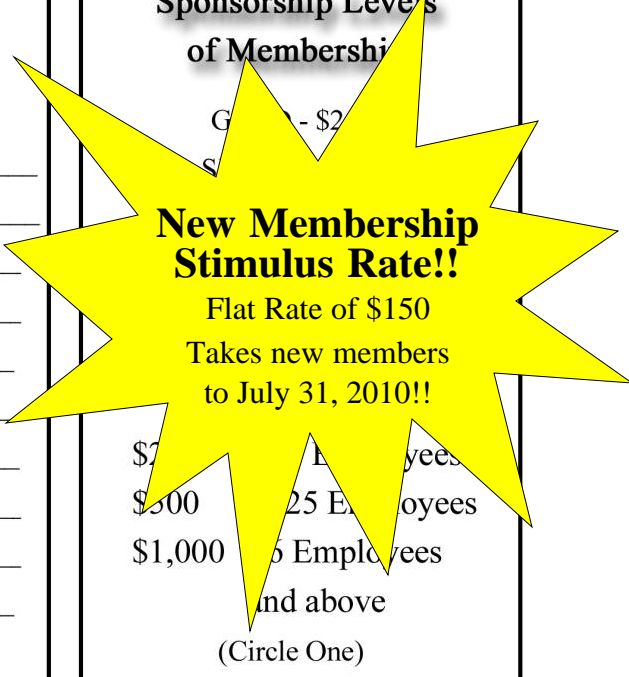
Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

To make certain that member contact information is correct and up to date, please complete the following information form:

Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____
Type of Business: _____
Contact Person: _____
Your Name (please print) _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Sponsorship Levels of Membership



**New Membership
Stimulus Rate!!**
Flat Rate of \$150
Takes new members
to July 31, 2010!!

General	\$250
Small Business	\$150
Medium Business	\$300
Large Business	\$500
Executive	\$1,000

and above
(Circle One)

Any questions, please contact Membership Chair Cecile Weich at 410-604-1111

BUSINESS *Queen Anne's*
2009 Board Members

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*Have you visited the
BQA Website lately?*



Access your newsletters via the BQA website!
Visit www.businessqueenannes.com
and click on "News"!

There's a new blog in town!

This is the first business blog to help you shape the future of our county. We must stand together for the present and for our children's future!

www.queenannesbusiness.net

BUSINESS
Queen Anne's

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