

Homes

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but if the homeowner or tenant occupies the dwelling for more than 90 days at a time, it does not constitute it being an event house.

He recommended events in these houses not be permitted between July 15 and Sept. 15 because this is the time of year for peak parking and visitation to Cape May. Committee members later revised the ban period to be July 1 to Labor Day, with possible exceptions based on the size and location of the event. Monzo suggested parking regulations should also vary for event homes based on the location and event size.

Monzo suggested those who wish to register their property as an event house must obtain a license, which would come with an annual fee and certification process. Monzo recommended a \$150 yearly fee, which the committee could discuss. He said the certification would include a state fire inspection, compliance with the Hotel and Multiple Dwellings Act as well as city code, a zoning inspection and construction official inspection. Monzo said handicap accessibility could also be examined.

He said he incorporated suggestions made by committee member Mary McKenney, who said property owner should notify the city a certain number of days prior to any large event. McKenney proposed an event notification form as a way for the city to monitor event houses in 2014 without taking any action, such as implementing

fees. Police Capt. Robert Sheehan, who serves on the committee, said the notification form would be extremely useful to the police department, informing them where and when large events in the city are being held.

Monzo's proposed ordinance said the event notification would be incorporated to monitor these events on a case by case basis, however, the city could still establish a fee. McKenney said even though she proposed a year trial period for the notification process without implementing any fees, she agreed with Monzo's recommendation.

"I support the idea of a fee because there is overhead that comes with city inspections," she said.

Monzo said the committee will need to discuss consequences and fines for non-compliance, as well as who is responsible for the event, whether it be the owner of the property or tenant. McKenney said if police are called, they need to know who is in charge of the event when they arrive, which would be specified on the event notification form.

McKenney said the committee should discuss occupancy levels and maximum number of event attendees, especially in terms of indoor and outdoor events. She suggested a maximum of 200 attendees for an outdoor event.

"There's a big difference between an indoor 35-person party and an outdoor tented party of 150," she said. "There should be different regulations for each one."

During public comment, Patricia Hendricks of Trenton Avenue, a real estate broker for Wilsey Realty, provided the committee with a list of suggestions regarding tents and enforcement of the current ordinances.

"In order to effectively enforce the current ordinance it is my opinion we would need to include some teeth in the existing ordinances to insure immediate improvement and to cover city costs to effectively enforce," she said.

Hendricks said noise and other nuisance related issues come from all activities related to tents; therefore all individuals and commercial establishments should have to comply with the ordinance equally and submit a tent permit application. She said a copy of the tent contract should be required and the name and contact information associated with the vendor should be on record with the permit application.

She said the tent permit should be required to be clearly display on the property's front window 72 hours prior to the scheduled event and applicants must apply a minimum of 60 days in advance of the event. She said all property owners within 200 feet should be adequately notified of the event by mail.

Hendricks also suggested an increase in the tent permit fee from \$100 to \$500, and to allow up to 75 individuals at an event. She said there should then be an additional \$25 for each additional 25 attendees, as well as a \$250 supplemental fee if alcohol is

served at the event. Hendricks said the homeowner or business shall be required to carry Host Liability Liquor Coverage with a "minimum limit of \$500,000 Combined Single Limit."

She also recommended the requirement of hiring an off duty police officer to monitor the events and have the police establish the number of attendants per officer needed.

City code (Chapter 463) says, "a tent license shall not be required for a residential property that does not have a mercantile license and is not being used for rental purposes." Hendricks said a permit should be required for all tents regardless of the venue. She said more information should be required for the tent permit agreement such as the time and date of the event, start and end time, name of the caterer and number of employees, the type of entertainment and not only the number of attendees, but a list of attendees provided 30 days prior to the event.

"Clearly state the level of fines involved with problems the city encounters during any permitted event and when a tent is erected without a permit issued by the City of Cape May. Tents erected without the required permits should carry a minimum of a \$1,000 fine," she said.

She said all tented events shall require arrangements for the parking of excess vehicles and should be required to be parked at the elementary school and shuttled to the event. She said the former Vance's Bar site could also be used for parking.

Mayor Ed Mahaney said the committee would review Hendricks's recommendations and consider them for possible implementation.

The next advisory committee meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 9 at 2 p.m.

HOLIDAY HOURS AND DEADLINES:

DEADLINES: Classified ad deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20 for the Dec. 25 paper (coming out Dec. 24) and 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 27 for the Jan. 1 issue.

HOLIDAY HOURS: The Star and Wave office is open Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve from 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Christmas & New Year's Day. Open regular hours otherwise.



Above, Journalism students at Lower Cape May Regional High School.

Class

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tions about their professions.

The panel of journalists was comprised of Diane Stopyra, a freelance reporter and former writer for Exit Zero magazine; Dave Weinberg, sports writer for The Press of Atlantic City covering the Philadelphia Eagles; Pete Thompson, sports broadcaster for NBC40; and the Star and Wave's very own managing editor, Christopher South.

Jackie Siscone, who teaches the News Media class and English at LCMR, said she has had guest speakers from the journalism field come and take questions from her students for the past five years, but this was the first time she had an entire panel of journalists.

"Usually, there is just one speaker at a time. This year, we decided to get a bunch of people together and share their expertise," she said.

Students asked various questions regarding the panelists' inspirations, gratifying and memorable moments in their careers, meeting deadlines and what a typical day in the field entails.

"I think it really helps to hear the perspective of the people who are actually out there in the field as opposed to a teacher just telling them how it is. But, when it comes from the expert, it has more value," Siscone said.

One of the main topics of discussion stemmed from inquiry regarding journalism's drastic shift to web-based media, which has caused print media to slowly fade out.

"It seems that everybody is going that way to some degree - moving away from printed paper and going online. What I've been told is that the technology has already gone passed the website and now it's social media," South said. "I think it's another outlet, a good way to promote print

media through electronic media and vice versa."

"Part of the thing that we do pretty much now is based on our website - I'm on Facebook, I'm on Twitter constantly, I have to do around three blog updates a day," Weinberg added. "It's a big part of the way we do our business now too, especially in sports, because our deadlines now are ridiculously early."

While Weinberg believes print will eventually be a thing of the past, Stopyra said there will always be some attraction to having the palpable newspaper or magazine in hand, even though she admits to being the proud owner of a Kindle device.

"I always said the newspaper would never die entirely, because people love that tactile experience so much of holding the paper," she said.

Panelists offered students advice regarding their pursuit in careers in journalism or broadcasting. Each member of the panel encouraged students to get involved with their school newspaper and online media outlets that could help mold them into well-rounded writers and give them experience for the future.

"If you can write well, you can do anything. If you can write, you can be a lawyer, you can be a doctor, you can be anything you want to be as long as you can write and communicate your thoughts," Thompson said. "If it comes easy to you, don't turn your back on it and don't be embarrassed by the fact that you like writing, whether it's creative writing, journalistic, any kind of writing - do it. It will put you ahead of the game and everybody else."

Siscone said she felt the panel format had more of an impact than having one guest speaker at a time and plans to contact reporters from other media outlets in the future for more press conference style classes.

Date

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plete phase four of the West Cape May Bike Path project, which would place a bicycle lane on Leaming from Park Boulevard to the Cape May City line. The borough hopes the project will also allow for parking spaces along the street as well. A total of 26 parking parallel parking spaces were created along the bike path on Park Boulevard.

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	High	Low		
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
18	8:16	8:43	1:42	2:36
19	8:52	9:22	2:19	3:14
20	9:28	10:01	2:57	3:51
21	10:04	10:41	3:35	4:27
22	10:41	11:23	4:16	5:03
23	11:20		5:00	5:42
24	12:08	12:04	5:50	6:24
25	12:58	12:55	6:47	7:12

Moon Phases
New Moon, Dec. 2
First Quarter, Dec. 9
Full Moon, Dec. 17
Last Quarter, Dec. 25
Perigee, Dec. 4
Apogee, Dec. 19

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