

Meier calls for better communication with nonprofits

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — Freshman Councilman Shaine Meier is calling for better communication between the city administration and the city's nonprofit organizations.

At a Jan. 20 council meeting, Meier said he has been involved with a number of nonprofit organizations in Cape May for some time and that following receiving his oath of office, he met with representative of several groups.

Meier said the nonprofits extend

Cape May beyond a beach, a Convention Hall and a mall.

"These organizations create colorful cultural experiences for all who live in and visit Cape May," he said.

Meier suggested establishing a new tourism commission to include representatives of all nonprofits and some for-profit organizations such as the jazz festival. He suggested the commission meet during the last quarter of the year to establish dates of events in Cape May to avoid scheduling conflicts.

Communicating with the many nonprofits in the city is a lot of

work for City Manager Bruce MacLeod, Meier said, adding that he heard complaints from organizations about not having phone calls returned.

Meier said the calls could be delegated to a tourism director or assistant director. He suggested the city advertise in more travel magazines.

"I believe these organizations should have a fair opportunity to use Convention Hall at little to no cost," Meier said.

"Convention Hall is also a community center, and I think we should

act that way," he continued.

Councilwoman Bea Pessagno said she also met with nonprofit organizations in the city.

"Their biggest concern, I think it's one that can be easily taken care of, is they would like better lines of communication between the city and each nonprofit," she said.

Pessagno said nonprofits asked for a roundtable discussion with the city administration to vent some of their frustrations.

MacLeod said the city's existing tourism committee included the majority of the city's nonprofits. He

said committee meetings were not well attended.

A total of 18 groups are entitled to participate on the tourism committee, MacLeod said.

He said when the tourism utility was created, it was outlined that Convention Hall would not be made available to nonprofits at no cost.

He said the city places ads in a number of publications and participates in travel shows.

Mayor Edward Mahaney said council should review the tourism committee since it is entering its third year of existence.

Wichterman

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to answer questions about the status of the matter and its history spanning three years.

"Mr. Wichterman was delegated by the previous council to be the leading person and he has history on this that nobody else has," Mahaney said. "His role is not to have a vote, it's not to provide any information unless he's called upon, and it was felt to give the council members coming on board the opportunity to get all the information they need."

Mahaney said Gagliardi requested Wichterman be present in the closed session meeting.

Meier said he did not rule out including Wichterman in a future meeting but wanted to have the ability to fully express his opinion, noting Wichterman's opinion on the issue was "very strong."

A vote to remove the resolution from the agenda was approved in a 3-2 vote. Inderwies, Pessagno and Meier cast "yes" votes, while Mahaney and Deputy Mayor Terri Swain voted against removing the resolution from the agenda.

During council comments, Inderwies said council needed to be careful with the numbers that it used, "saying 70 percent of the voters in the city of Cape May were in favor of the withdrawal."

Wichterman stated in the Dec. 17 edition of the Star and Wave, "In the two elections, on both questions we received 70 percent affirmative votes."

Cape May voters voted 393-115 in favor of withdrawing from Lower Cape May Regional School District. Inderwies cautioned using words such as "overwhelming mandate."

"I hardly feel that less than 300 people voting yes out of 1,888 voters is an overwhelming mandate," he said.

During public comment, resident Roger Furlin said the city needed to attract more families as residents, and good schools were part of the equation. He said the quality of the regional high school "leaves something to be desired."

Furlin said it was important local schools were adequately funded. He noted Cape May has almost \$3 billion in taxable properties with 3,500 perma-

nent residents.

"Now 60 percent of those residents are married, which brings the number of properties that residents own to less than about 2,500, which represents a little over \$1 billion in taxable properties," Furlin said.

He said for every \$1 million brought into the regional school system by Cape May residents, \$2 million is brought in from nonresidents who are mostly from out of state.

"It's like a two-for-one grant-matching program that the city so eagerly pursues," Furlin said.

He urged council to broaden its vision to promote the regional school rather than "looking at it as an adversarial money pit."

City Solicitor Tony Monzo said Cape May withdrawing from the Lower Cape May Regional School District was no longer an option since the majority of voters cast negative votes on the question from Lower Township and West Cape May in the Dec. 9 special election.

"The only effort that remains is to seek an adjustment to the formula," he said.



Jack Fichter/CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE

A contractor is replacing eight beach outfall pipes from Wilmington to Madison avenues in Cape May and has gotten permission to work later than the normal cutoff time of 6 p.m.

County receives OK to work later on Cape May outfall pipe project

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY — A county project to replace ocean outfall pipes on Cape May's beaches is under way, and the county has requested extra hours differing from city

construction codes to work beyond the normal cutoff time of 6 p.m.

City Manager Bruce MacLeod said he approved the request based on the work being delayed by high tides.

"They've indicated to us on any given day, they would stop

by at least 10 p.m.," he said.

The county Board of Chosen Freeholders awarded a contract Sept. 9 to replace eight beach outfall pipes from Wilmington to Madison avenues. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of April.

Police administer Narcan to unconscious woman

NORTH CAPE MAY — Lower Township police received a report of an unconscious and unresponsive female inside a residence in the 3000 block of Bayshore Road at about 5:45 p.m. Jan. 21.

Officer Kaitlin Black arrived on scene with the Lower Town-

ship Rescue Squad and found the subject in an unconscious state. A medical assessment was made on the subject, who was observed to have shallow breathing. Based on the assessment and information provided by the reporting party on scene, Black admin-

istered Naloxone Narcan to the female subject. This resulted in bringing the subject out of her unresponsive state. She was transported to the Cape Regional Medical Center for additional treatment.

All officers with the Lower Township Police Department have been trained in the administration of Naloxone Narcan, the counteracting medicine used to treat subjects that are in an unconscious, unresponsive state due to opi-

Cape May Star & Wave

CAPE MAY STAR AND WAVE (ISSN 519-020)
Volume 161 Number 5

Published weekly by Sample Media, Inc., 801 Asbury Ave., #310,
Ocean City, N.J. 08226

Published Weekly (52 times a year)

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: By mail for \$39 a year; \$70 for two years; \$20 for six months. Periodical Postage at Pleasantville, N.J. and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to the Cape May Star and Wave, 600 Park Blvd. #28, West Cape May, N.J. 08204.

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The Wedding Ringer R 11:30, 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50
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For more information email us at WillowCreekWinery@gmail.com, call 609-770-8782, or visit WillowCreekWineryCapeMay.com

"Cape May has some really amazing jazz festivals but for us locals, they are always at a time that it seems almost impossible for us to truly enjoy them or a little too pricey for many. So, we decided to host an incredible jazz weekend for not only our locals to enjoy, but also, we have teamed up with some great hotels, B&B's and motels to offer some fantastic room rates for our out of town visitors who want to enjoy our Cape May community in January."

TIDES : January-February 2015

Date	High		Low	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
28	2:30	2:53	8:39	8:46
29	3:34	3:58	9:44	9:45
30	4:33	4:57	10:44	10:40
31	5:25	5:48	11:37	11:30
1	6:11	6:34		12:23
2	6:53	7:16	12:16	1:05
3	7:31	7:55	12:58	1:44
4	8:08	8:32	1:38	2:20

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