

Saugus Chamber of Commerce welcomes Iron Works superintendent to Board of Directors

Photos



courtesy photo

Those pictured at the Saugus Chamber of Commerce meeting include John Smolinsky of Saugus Federal, Selectman Michael Serino, Anthony Speziale of the Tax Shop, Sean Grant, John Macauda of Geriatric Assistance, Kevin Tierney of Saugusbank, Selectman Steve Castinetti of Yellow Book, state Rep. Donald Wong, Denise Selden of 345 Central Salon, Susan Yee of Square One Mall, Saugus Iron Works Superintendent Michael Quijano-West and Annie Harris, executive director of the Essex National Heritage Commission.

By Staff reports

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Saugus — At a reception held recently at the Marleigh Graves Community Building, members of the Saugus Chamber of Commerce, elected officials from the town of Saugus, individuals representing other Saugus organizations and trustees and staff of the Essex National Heritage Commission welcomed Michael Quijano-West as the new superintendent of the National Park Service's Salem Maritime & Saugus Iron Works National Historic Sites.

Part of the mission of the revitalized Chamber of Commerce is to promote the rich cultural and historical history of Saugus and the natural features such as Breakheart Reservation. The reception was a way to bring various historical and cultural organizations together to meet and talk about creating partnerships to highlight Saugus unique assets.

Organizations in attendance included; Darin Swimm of Congressman John Tierney's Office; Executive Director Annie Harris along with Susan Lippman and Deb Pesanti Payson from the Essex Heritage Commission; from the town of Saugus Selectmen Michael Serino and Steve Castinetti, Library Director Diane Wallace of the Saugus Public Library and Town Counsel John Vasapolli with Vasapolli & Ricciardelli; state Rep. Donald Wong; Chairman Marilyn Carlson of The Saugus Historical Commission; Brent Bass, president, and Dave Fama, president-elect, of the Saugus Rotary Club; and Director of the Boardman House Kristen Weiss of Historic New England.

These individuals along with others welcomed the new superintendent and the renewed possibilities to partner with other organizations to promote Saugus.

“Essex Heritage is dedicated to fostering public-private partnerships throughout Essex County to protect and promote our historic, cultural and natural resources,” said Annie C. Harris, executive

director of the Essex National Heritage Commission. “We look forward to growing this partnership to promote the special resources in Saugus, including the Saugus Iron Works, and working closely with Saugus’s business and educational leaders. We welcome Superintendent Michael Quijano-West and believe that his background in partnerships and public service will lend itself to growing a stronger partnership with Saugus.”

Sponsor of the evening’s event and Saugus Chamber of Commerce Board Member Kevin Tierney (and past president of the Essex National Heritage Commission) echoed the reasons why the business community looked forward to this renewed partnership.

“As a local businessman who serves on the board of two advocacy organizations — the Saugus Chamber and Essex National Heritage Commission — it is my belief that the synergy which exists with the business community, our heritage and our national historic sites is a necessary and collaborative relationship in improving the relevance and prominence of Saugus to our region,” Tierney said. “I think we can all attest to the fact that we can grow our businesses by attracting knowledgeable, professional and dedicated employees because of the quality of life here in Essex County.”

As an example of this renewed partnership at a previous board meeting of the Saugus Chamber of Commerce the Board of Directors voted to invite the National Park Service to join the Board of Directors. At the reception Quijano-West accepted the invitation and agreed to be the representative for the National Park Service.

“The Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site, as a unit of the National Park Service preserves and interprets the significant history and natural beauty of the unit for the enjoyment of all visitors to the North Shore region,” Quijano-West said. “We look forward to working with the Saugus Chamber of Commerce, the town of Saugus, the Essex National Heritage Area and all our partners and organizations that promote the rich natural and cultural heritage of Saugus. I am honored and eager to join the Saugus Chamber as their newest board member to help promote Saugus as a destination.”

The Saugus Chamber will be working together with the National Park Service, Essex National Heritage Commission, and the organizations gathered to create events that will encourage the public to explore the cultural, natural and historic aspects of Saugus during next year.

Submitted by the Chamber of Commerce

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