

Pat Coon

From: Gary Bassett
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2019 9:05 AM
To: Pat Coon
Subject: Fw: All That Java coffee

Correspondence

Gary Bassett
Mayor Village of Rhinebeck
Chair, Hudson River Drinking Water Inter-municipal Council
76 East Market St.
Rhinebeck, NY 12572
845-876-7015

From: Samantha Knoop <info@allthatjava.net>
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 8:55 AM
To: Gary Bassett <MayorBassett@villageofrhinebeckny.gov>
Subject: Fwd: All That Java coffee

From a JAVALOVER.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Matt Wright <oelboxer@gmail.com>
Date: August 1, 2019 at 11:11:26 PM EDT
To: Court@villageofrhinebeckny.gov
Subject: All That Java coffee

Willie and John,
I'm writing not just as a fan of All That Java as a business, but also as a concerned Rhinebeck Village resident who sees how easily we could lose our sense of community as a village. I've been a resident of the Village for almost a decade now, and we all know what direction our beloved area is headed. Tourism, while a Godsend for many area businesses, has the potential to drain the Village of its friendly, close-knit feel. It's up to us as Village residents who choose to raise our children here to support and nurture the community we have here. It's the only thing that will keep Rhinebeck from becoming another East Hampton or Cape Cod.

As a regular customer of All That Java coffee, I can tell you that its owners are not only Village residents, but true supporters of the community. They represent everything we hold dear about Rhinebeck - smiling faces, warm greetings, a true concern for the neighborhood. When was the last time you saw Bread Alone in the Memorial Day parade? All That Java employs a number of young women in the area who otherwise might be forced to leave the Village for work.

As one of their regular customers, I've also been privy to some of the legal issues the company is facing. I am in complete agreement with the Village that All That Java should follow the guidelines set forth by the Village zoning laws. I was very pleased when the owners told me that,

while it turned out they appeared to be in violation, the Village Court allowed them to remain open while they pursued a variance to operate in their East Market Street location at the Methodist Church. Today, I was shocked to hear that, at what should have been a procedural hearing, Judge Kane reversed this and ordered them to cease business operation. On what grounds, other than a punitive order for failing to adhere to accepted Village procedure, was this decision made?

With the number of people flooding the Village throughout the tourism season, there is more than enough business to support the relatively small draw of All That Java. While they have clearly missed some steps in establishing their new business location, the owners were under the impression that in supporting the Methodist Church's desire to maintain an active and relevant position in the community they would be allowed to operate. The decision to order a business owned by a Village resident, a mother of college students, and an active community supporter to close its doors and put a number of young people out of work does not seem in line with the values that drew me to Rhinebeck 10 years ago. I hope we haven't moved so far from that mark that we are beginning to eat our own.

Yours,
Matt Wright
17 Platt Ave