

## BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Trustees Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2016

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Attending:

John Tennyson  
Ed Ebenbach  
Bruce Allen  
Andy Moutenot\*  
  
Tom Zesk

Barbara Truncellito  
MaryAnn Crutchlow  
Kimberly Patterson  
Carolyn Goeckeca\*  
Jim Slyfield\*

Excused:

Dottie Reynolds  
Steve Pines  
Alan Thomas  
Bill Chnelich

- I. John Tennyson called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.
    - o John recognized our guests and new members. New members and guests introduced themselves. The guests (marked with a \*) introduced themselves.  
  
Alan Thomas has resigned from the Board due to personal reasons.
  - II. John motioned to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2016 meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved.
  - III. Reports
    - o Treasurer's Report – John Tennyson  
The YTD financial report is now being presented quarterly. The next update will be presented with the 6/18/16 meeting.
    - o Membership Report – Ed Ebenbach  
Ed passed out an updated Membership Report, dated 5/13/16. The total paid members is 489, with 94 lifetime members and 395 annual members. Ed has been working on continually verifying the member list and the Lifetime members. Members are still mailing in their dues.
    - o Open Space Report – Barbara Truncellito  
Barbara spoke with Mayor Larson who is awaiting the plans for the Coast Guard property open space. Barbara also provided an overview and update regarding the LBI school district property. There are 2 bidders – in excess of \$9M. The mayors of Ship Bottom and Surf City are not able to come to an agreement on the plans for the property. The most recent meeting with the mayors and the school board was raucous.
    - o JCTA (Joint Council of Taxpayers' Association) Report – John Tennyson  
John explained that the JCTA meets each month – the first Monday at 7pm at the Surf City Library. Tom Zesk, one of our new members, will be able to attend the JCTA
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meetings and provide a summary to the group that can be passed along to taxpayers, where applicable.

o Borough Council Report - John Tennyson

Ed and John attended the most recent borough council meeting last Wednesday evening 5/11/16. John passed out the Agenda with his notes from the meeting. The hot topic was the dog park – both pros and cons. John spoke with Mayor Larson about easier ways to share information – especially about the positive moves being done in town. Both John and Ed spoke to Mayor Larson about presenting agendas that include communicating and sharing positive news to residents.

o Communications – John Tennyson

• Website update – Kimberly Patterson

The BLTA Facebook group is up to 77 members.

Kimberly questioned that since we are presenting the financials on a quarterly basis, shall we pull the financial attachments from the agenda and show them on the website separately? Everyone unanimously agreed it would be easier to separate them for ease in locating them.

• Newsletter – John Tennyson

John mentioned that in the past, the primary focus of a spring newsletter was to do a recap of winter activities and a reminder to mail in your dues. We discussed weather it had much of an impact. It was agreed that we send out a flyer with graphics via email blast instead of a newsletter and post it on the web site.

MaryAnn suggested that we let folks know about the LBI Free Shuttle cell phone app, which can be included in the email blast.

IV. New Business – Items for Discussion

o Member Surveys – Ed Ebenbach

Ed passed out survey results, dated 5/13/16, that are very detailed and with graphics that refine the results very well. Ed took the time to review the results and provide an overview of each of the survey responses with statistics. The results are comprehensive and the clear graphics provide a good way for everyone to understand them. These detailed survey results will be shared and communicated at the June General meeting.

Trustee Class List – John Tennyson

John distributed the Trustee Class List to discuss board vacancies. New board members have to be announced in July and the terms are scheduled to start in September. John raised the issue of revising the bylaws to make the terms mutually beneficial for both the member and the board. There were a few questions that arose about having different term limits while also keeping continuity of the BLTA activity. John will work on a draft of changes to the bylaws and will address it with the group.

- Speaker Report – John Tennyson

Shall we offer an honorarium to our speakers. Tom Zesk will be reaching out to Jim Gutowski to ask him about interest in speaking at the General Meeting regarding how Barnegat Light is an integral component to the fishing industry.

We will be working on reaching out to potential speakers for the September general meeting and looking for topics that may be interesting to the community.

- Other New Business – John Tennyson

Following up from the 4/16/16 meeting, Bill Chnelich had suggested that we make a donation to PBA, on behalf of Megan Keller, Long Beach Township Police. Megan has been a frequent presenter at our general meetings. This would be a one-time donation and not occur on a regular basis. John motioned that the BLTA donate \$200 to the PBA. The motion was voted on and approved. John will ask Bill Chnelich to research which organization the donation will be sent.

For the July 16, 2016 BLTA general meeting, John asked Laurie Malay from How You Brewin to provide a quote for a light lunch for attending residents. John received the quote and will revisit it with Laurie to perhaps see where costs can be cut. The goal is to stay on budget with respect to what has been spent on lunch for prior meetings. How You Brewin currently provides the coffee and donuts for all of our meetings at a fixed price and the BLTA would like to continue working with them.

MaryAnn raised a question about the aesthetics of the Little Free Library. As it is unpainted, it may be dull so she asked if we are open to painting or decorating it for more appeal? Everyone agreed it was a good idea. MaryAnn will know more as it comes together and starts being built and we will be able to address it at that time.

V. Adjournment

John thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and, as always, he was grateful for everyone's time.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39am.

Recorded and submitted by:



**Kimberly Patterson**  
**Recording Secretary**  
**5/16/16**