

BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Trustees Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2019

<u>Attending:</u>		<u>Excused:</u>	
Barbara Truncellito	Patty Robinson	Kay McDonnell	
Rich Brodman	Patty Francfort (by Phone) (Committee member)	Philip Kahn	
Bill Chnelich		Jack Byrnes	
Tom Zesk		Virginia Simmons	
Mary Ann Crutchlow			
Betsy Aras			

I. President's Opening Comments

Barbara Truncellito called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. The Trustees approved the minutes from the April 27, 2019 Trustees Meeting.

II. Reports

o Membership Report – Rich Brodman

Rich noted that we currently have 510 members for 2019, which is approximately 20 ahead of last year at this time, when we were at 491. We ended 2018 with 549 members and are on track to repeat that or increase it for 2019. The Wine and Cheese event and summer general meetings typically result in significant new and renewal members.

We are also sending an email message to members in the last 5 years who have not renewed yet for this year.

o Treasurer's Report – Bill Chnelich

Bill presented the financials as of May 15, 2019. During 2019, our fund balance increased from \$11,714 to \$16,547 as we collected \$9,285 in dues and additional contributions, less expenses (printing, postage, bicycle safety flyers, IT, insurance) of \$4,451.

o BLTA Website and Facebook Group – Tom Zesk

Tom updated the group on the website usage as recorded by Google Analytics. We had over 1.2 million users hits in April, with an average session time in excess of 1 minute.

The Facebook Group (managed by Betsy Aras) has continued to grow tremendously this year, and currently has over 180 members, an increase of more than 75 over last year, with 40 new members joining since January.

Tom noted that we are looking at adding a Calendar of Events to provide information on events coming up over the next few months.

III. New Business – Items for Discussion

o Borough Council Meeting – Barbara Truncellito

Barbara attended the May 8 Borough Council meeting. The main topics:

- The Boroughs will all contribute \$20,000 (an increase from \$10,000 last year) for the LBI Shuttle. This will include the new Mainland Shuttle to transport workers to LBI
- The budget was approved with the new tax rates, an increase of 1 penny over last year.

Rich Brodman discussed with Dottie Reynolds the need for additional bike racks on 8 beach streets. The Town does not have budget approval this year to acquire them. We will look for alternative ways to help with funding.

o Joint Committee of Taxpayer Associations (JCTA) Meeting – Barbara Truncellito

Barbara attended the May 8 JCTA meeting. The topics included:

- A discussion of the back bay flooding issue and trying to get a meeting with EPA; they are working with Stockton University on this;
- The consolidation of the LBI and EJ elementary schools and possible outcomes;
- Bicycle safety and pedestrian safety concerns;
- The possibility of flashing lights for the towns during the summer;

o Wine and Cheese Event – Rich Brodman

Rich went over the timing of the setup for the May 26 Wine and Cheese Event and the schedule. On the day of the Event, Trustees should arrive by 3:30 to help with the setup. All attendees will wear name tags, and Trustees will tend bar. Phil will work on having background music for the Event.

o Speakers for Summer General Meetings – Rich Brodman

The speakers are being set up for the general meetings.

- The June 22 meeting is set and will be held at the Pavilion and will feature Freeholder Ginny Haines and the Mayor. The meeting will start at 10:00 am and will begin with BLTA reports, and then the two speakers. It will be followed by a picnic lunch sponsored by the Borough Council and music entertainment. We will do a dry run of the sound system in advance to determine the best way to set up the microphones and speaker system.
- The July 13 meeting will feature Scott Lenox who has set up an oyster farming business in Barnegat Light. We are also looking to have the owner of the Kite Store and/or a representative of the night fly event at the Lighthouse.
- The September 14 meeting will feature Megan Keller of the Long Beach Township Police Dept., and the Barnegat Light chief lifeguard.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM. The next meeting is the BLTA General meeting at the Pavilion on June 22, 2019 at 10:00 AM.

Recorded and submitted by:

Tom Zesk
Recording Secretary
June 18, 2019