

BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2023

By Zoom

Trustees

Attending:

Rich Brodman
Tony Dandola
Bill Chnelich
Jack Byrnes
Betsy Aras
Wendy Baker
Mary Ann Crutchlow
Kay McDonnell

Non-Trustee Board Members

Attending:

Bruce Allen
Maddy Pantzer

Excused/Absent:

Tom Zest (Committee Member)
Phil Kahn
Scott Neff

Rich Brodman called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

The minutes of the February 23rd meeting were unanimously approved.

Opening Remarks – Rich Brodman

Rich opened the meeting by welcoming all. He then indicated that Trish Faidiga has resigned from the Board, effective March 13th, due to personal issues.

Rich then reported that, after a conversation with the Mayor, it was decided not to have a jointly sponsored BBQ this year. We will reconsider such an event in the fall of 2024, the 120 year anniversary of Barnegat Light.

Reports

1. Membership – Kay McDonnell

Kay reported that our membership campaign has been proceeding nicely. We have 132 online sign-ups and 21 others for a total of 153 to date. A second notice will go out at the end of the month.

2. Treasurer's Report – Bill Chnelich

A. At about a week away from the end of the quarter, receipts are coming in fast and furious, making it difficult to know exactly what the total will be by March 31. A Treasury Report as of March 31, 2023 will be available for presentation at our next meeting. A preview of activity through March 21 follows.

Receipts since January 1st are approximately \$5,000 of which \$1,350 are Contributions. Expenses are approximate \$3,200 of which \$2,480 is IT and \$720 is the new Flag Disposal Box. Fund Balance is approximately \$24,000.

A number of members have made a contribution in addition to their membership dues and will receive our thanks.

B. Our current limit of loss of our Surety Bond Insurance is \$25,000. We plan to find out what it would cost to increase this limit to \$40,000.

3. **Social Media – Betsy Aras, Wendy Baker, Scott Neff**

There is nothing new to report. Our calendar is populated now and is on our website.

4. **Little Free Library – Rich Brodman for Mary Ann Crutchlow**

The Little Free Library continues to thrive. All is well.

5. **Donation to Barnegat Light – Betsy Aras**

The flag repository box for retired flags is nearly completed and will be placed across from the Post Office.

The BLTA will also be donating a defibrillator to the Borough (estimated cost \$1500-\$1800). It will be placed at the pickleball court or the pavilion.

6. **Cloud Solution for BLTA Documents – Bill Chernelich**

We are postponing additional work for a few months while we recruit a new Board Member, preferably with technical background.

7. **Speaker Topics for our three General Meetings in 2023 – Jack Byrnes and Bruce Allen**

Our principal speakers for our summer meetings are

- A member of the NJ Dept of Fish and Game to present on bird migration on LBI
- A brief history of the fishing industry in Barnegat Light
- A representative of county government to discuss current events and issues related to senior residents

For both the second and third bullet points above, we have identified speakers (Karter Larson on fishing and Commissioner Haines) and are hopeful both will commit to us.

Matt Verub, our local police representative, will speak at the June meeting on bicycle safety. A member of the first aid squad will attend our July meeting and provide a CPR demonstration. At our September meeting our Postmaster, Tom Altman, will introduce himself and review postal services.

8. **Newsletter – Wendy, Mary Ann and Maddy**

All articles for inclusion are expected by the first week of April.

9. **Borough Council Meeting – Bruce Allen**

Four topics of interest were discussed at the Borough Council Meeting.

1. Section 215-90 of the Building Code describes setbacks for buildings in Barnegat Light. Currently 25 feet, the Council is considering increasing the setback to 35 feet. The topic received many comments. The article was tabled in anticipation of a recommendation from the Planning Board.
2. Our miniature golf course has been purchased by an LBI resident who has expressed his intention that it will remain a golf course.
3. Seasonal decals will be required for kayaks and small boats left on the beach just south of 24th street. For Barnegat Light residents, the cost will be either \$10 or \$20 depending on the width (5 feet) of the boat. For non-residents, the fee will be \$100 or \$200 depending upon the width.

4. The Council intends to construct a 10 x10 foot building near the pickleball courts which will house equipment and also sell beach badges. A bathroom will not be included.

10. JCTA – Rich Brodman

Rich reported that a number of the TA's on the island do not provide insurance of any kind. He commented that Barnegat Light is in the best shape on the island.

There are 1343 completed surveys submitted to the JCTA. Barnegat Light accounted for 21% of the surveys received, the most of any TA on the island.

The next meeting of the BLTA, by Zoom, will be on Thursday, April 27 at 4 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Byrnes
Secretary