

Ship Bottom Taxpayers Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 4/28/22

Attendees: Barbara Bishop, Dan Von Schaumberg, Greg Fath, Denise Cleveland, Joe Oliver, Rob Vidal, and Karen Drucker.

Meeting opened at 7:08 pm. Dan motioned for an approval of minutes from 3/24/22, Joe seconded it. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Balance in account is \$2,422.36. Rob mailed out 3 checks today. He will have those in April's report. Rob filed the SBTA tax return today with the IRS and he filed the state report today as well.

Committee Reports:

Beautification – Dan said he is starting with approximately \$1800 in the bank. He was looking for some free mulch, and the local vendors declined. Sandy T's Stone & Garden Center from West Creek did offer to donate and they will be delivering tomorrow. Family who had a dad pass away wants to do more than just a plaque. Looks like the flag pole won't be an option. We can't upgrade the gazebo because that is the town's responsibility. Another family wants to donate a tree – Dan is waiting to hear back from them. He also said he now has 24 volunteers!

Bike Safety – Karen said June 8th is the date for the bike rodeo. Barbara and Karen met with JCTA and discussed what has been done so far. Karen has cards from LBT with bike safety rules and wants to have safety cards developed and pass them out with beach badge sales. She shared the card that the group from LBT / Barnegat Light developed. She is also suggesting to share with realtors. Another idea is to have a magnet with the information on them. Barbara strongly suggests having the cards made up and handed out with the beach badges as the most effective method of distribution.

Membership – Our annual membership meeting will be June 4th (more info below). Barbara has no other updates at this time.

JCTA – Beach Cleanup will be island wide. It will be on Saturday, May 7th. The hours are 9 am – 12 noon. The woman running the event made up nice sheets to advertise. There is a copy on the glass partition where you buy badges and also in the post office. Ship Bottom's meeting place is Sunset Point Park. We can display our banner and there is plenty of parking. Barbara also asked Kathleen Flanagan if she could get us gloves and buckets along with having public works coming to pick up the trash that is collected afterwards. The changeable electronic signs coming on the island and the three in town will be notifying motorists of the clean-up. Harvey Cedars will be advertising as well.

Denise spoke about the first Flooding meeting. She said there was a lot of information shared and she took as many notes as she could. Some areas covered included: two pump stations are in the permit stage, and two are in the order process, new regulations are being put in place which include bulkheads being raised, roads being raised, new restrictions on building heights and associated rules concerning pavers and impervious stones. Frank Little is the engineer for the

island and he is knowledgeable about information related to this topic. He explained that all utilities had to be moved to have the drain pipe installed. 8th and 9th streets are beginning the paving process finally. Meetings will be monthly going forward, with the next one being May 18th. Barbara said there will be an open meeting for Resilient LBI at St. Francis on May 3rd from 5 – 7 pm. She will send out more information. There are a lot of flooding discussions occurring.

Old Business:

Ship Bottom Budget –Barbara shared that we have the budget from the town. Four SBTA members reviewed it earlier this week. She asked that folks share what they may be concerned about in the budget. Items such as police expenses (19%) and trash are two “hot” topics. A question arose about that the potential sale of the school, and all Barbara knows is there are discussions occurring behind the scenes. This includes the litigation regarding the old CVS building. Back to the budget, Kathleen Flanagan is very willing to meet with us, but she wants everything to flow through Barbara. We need to make sure we are being a partner with our borough while also balancing our questions of where our taxes are going.

Event Planning –Denise has agenda completed and she has purchased toiletries. John is handling the food for the June 4th General Membership Meeting. The time of the meeting will be 11:30 – 1:30. John purchased business cards which highlights our information but it also says “FREE LUNCH” on the bottom of it. We need to make sure we aren’t overspending for this event. Barbara shared the cards with everyone.

SBFD 100 Year Events – Barbara went to another meeting with this committee. New Date is the weekend following the kite festival. The fundraiser will look for \$50 donations to memorialize or recognize individuals. They will create flags with a tag or some way to identify the person associated with each flag. They will be placed on the boulevard where the town typically puts up the annual Christmas Trees.

New Business:

Awareness Campaign regarding Dunes. Barbara spoke at the last council meeting regarding beach fencing, which is covered at the foot of the dunes toward the ocean. Barbara said to the council that in the past, the borough installed another course of fencing. The mayor said we can’t interfere with Army Corp of Engineers’ overall design plans. Barbara reached out to the Army Corp of Engineers and was directed to speak to the DEP. The gentleman she contacted was very helpful. He shared a few reasons why the mayor may not want to do another course of dune fencing >> expensive, labor intensive, and takes up “towel space” which leaves less room for people using the beach (hence less patrons paying for badges). His suggestion was a compromise in which there is a delineation for where folks can walk. Barbara also asked about stay off the dune signs, as there are none on the beach side. The mayor said he needs to get in touch with the Army Corp of Engineers. She will bring up this issue at the next board meeting. The SBTA agrees that this should be an issue we undertake and try to solicit help from JCTA.

Next meeting 5/26/2022 (Potentially In-Person). Tonight’s meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm. Minutes submitted by Greg.