

Ship Bottom Taxpayers Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 12/01/22

Attendees: Barbara Bishop, John Hiros, Rob Vidal, Greg Fath, Joe Oliver, Kat Leifeste, Dan von Schaumburg, Denise Cleveland, Blair Stiefbold, Eileen Spring, Ann Coiley, Jim Coiley and Joanne Talon.

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm. Minutes from 11/03/22 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Balance in account is reconciled at \$2,485.95. Rob provided his monthly treasurer's report for November, along with the TD Bank statement for the corresponding month and the annual 990-N Postcard for the IRS for 2021. Checks written were for Jeffrey Kuhlman for website updates for \$27.50 and \$100 for our annual JCTA dues. Report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Beautification – Dan said they had final fall cleanup last week and all went well. Wishlist from town was finally completed including additional electricity throughout the park. Park is now decorated for the holidays and looks great!

Bike/Pedestrian Safety – No update tonight.

Membership/Newsletter – No report tonight. Barbara did send out a newsletter on November 21st.

JCTA – Barbara said one important thing came up with the JCTA. They have put out a series of “white papers” on the wind turbines. They are posted on our website and all other associations have shared information as well. The President from the Holgate taxpayer's association created a survey to see where folks actually stand in terms of how they feel about the turbines and how informed they feel they are about the project. Barbara has seen the survey and feels it is very fair. She will send a copy to the board members. The JCTA would like all organizations to disseminate the survey to their members. Anne asked what the overall objective would be after obtaining the results of the survey. Barbara thinks it is for general knowledge and that the JCTA is not looking to take a position on the turbines, which is the same as our group.

Old Business:

Ship Bottom Budget – No further update on a budget meeting with Kathleen Flanagan.

Insurance – The agent Greg contacted initially was unable to obtain a quote for our organization. Barbara suggested that he reach out for Anderson Agency, as other taxpayer groups have used this company. Ryan McCabe from the Anderson Agency has sent our application to various vendors and is confident we will have a quote in the very near future. He

wants to wait until everyone has responded to provide us with the best financial option. Greg will continue to keep the board updated on our progress.

Audit Committee – Jim Ulrich volunteered to be on the committee and Barbara asked Rich Neff to be on it. They will be meeting with Rob to go over the books and get back to us in January. Rob is trying to set up a meeting with them for next week. Rob is doing some prep work for them.

New Business:

8th- 9th Street Construction – Barbara reached out for the DOT as well as Councilman Butkus for an update. The word is that the borough has completed all the work they needed to finish. The contamination issue on 8th street is cleaned up (was not gas station related). Barbara has spoken with someone from the DOT but not the right person >> she will keep at it!

Event Planning:

Christmas Float/Sponsorship for the Christmas Parade – We will use Greg's Ford Lightning and Rob's jazz group will be in the bed of the truck. It will be weather permitting as we cannot do it if it is a windy/rainy day. Joanne said in the nineties she was a girl scout troop leader and they participated in a very miserable weather event. Wind may be an issue this year. Joe bought some decorations for the truck and he will be walking with the banner. He will also get bags of candy to throw out as well. The borough still needs people to carry other banners as well. If anyone wants to walk, please let Barbara know. Eileen said Pete Rossi told her "The show must go on"; however, they may be meeting on Friday to confirm. Barbara said we have elf hats as well that we can pick up from her house.

Chalk Painting – Kat sent a letter to the borough requesting permission to hold the event. She is waiting to hear back from Kristy DeBoer. Kat spoke with the owner of The Haymarket, who is very excited. Kat also connected with the high school Art Director and is working on details with their involvement. Kristy said food could be a problem. Kat is thinking just having water would be a simpler idea. She also said it would be great to get a small committee together to help coordinate this event. It is tentatively scheduled for April 29th from 10 – 4 with a rain date of the 30th.

Wine Tasting – Barbara met with the woman who runs the Harvey Cedars wine tasting event. They have done it multiple times. They do it for the benefit of the fire company. She gave Barbara information about the distributors and general logistics. Barbara is looking at a June (or September) timeframe. Another option would be that it is just a social event to get the taxpayers to be more involved at a fun activity. If we do it, it would be at the fire house. Denise & Kat said they would help with this event. John said we need to get a temporary permit for the liquor. He also questioned insurance for the wine tasting.

Fire Company Grant – Our fire company received \$32,000. Barbara reached out for the Chief and found out that they hired a grant writer and that worked out well. The monies can only be used on specific gear. The Chief is hoping to replace gear in groups of 3-5 sets per year. Note that not all fire companies on the island were granted funds. All fire companies are struggling for volunteers (especially in the winter) and overall funding.

Film Festival – Barbara said she will put out information tonight as the taxpayer association have been given discounts for all members. It will be a 5-day event in the summer.

Miscellaneous Items:

1. Verizon store closure. No news on what may happen next.
2. Drifting Sands has not approached the land use board.
3. Nothing new to report on the sale of the school in Ship Bottom.

Next Meeting: January 5th: All Leadership Team meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month. They will be via Zoom until at least April/May.

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm. Minutes submitted by Greg Fath.