

Ship Bottom Taxpayers Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 4/5/23

Attendees: Board Members: Barbara Bishop, John Hiros, Karen Drucker, Denise Cleveland, Kat Leifeste, Guests: Dan von Schaumburg, Joe Oliver, Blair Stiefbold, Jacqui Valerio, Jim Ulrich, John Montone, Mary Montone, JoAnn Tallon, Karen Rockhill

The meeting opened at 7:05 pm. Attendees and board members were introduced.

Minutes from 3/03/23 were approved, (Kat Leifeste, Karen Drucker 2nd).

Treasurer's Report – Rob Vidal (via written report).

The balance in the TD account is reconciled at \$2478.19. There were 3 new members. There were two checks, one for the post office box and the other to pay our webmaster.

Committee Reports:

Beautification – Dan said that volunteers were needed because there was some heavy work to be done.

Mary Montone suggested that we needed to do more work around the town to make it look nice. In particular, she mentioned the area under the bridge.

This led to a discussion about planting new trees around town and putting together a plan to present to the borough. Mary and Dan will work on gathering ideas. John H. suggested that we already have a lot on our plate without adding anything additional to what we are already doing.

It was also suggested that we try to do something about certain residences that look messy. Barbara explained that this type of complaint must go to the Code Enforcement Officer.

Bike / Pedestrian Safety – Karen Drucker

Karen has contacted AAA for free signs to put around the town and is awaiting a reply from the corporate office. We have gotten them from them in the past.

Karen has been in contact with Mary Allen Realty, and they have agreed to put bike safety cards in all their rental bags.

Membership – Rob Vidal – Joe Oliver

Joe said that he had no updates to report. The JCTA had come up with a proposal for direct mailing, but it was not feasible since many houses do not have mailboxes. Barbara will investigate this further because she felt that direct mailing was best. Any ideas should go to Joe and Rob.

Newsletter / Facebook – Barbara Bishop

Barbara explained that there were some restrictions placed on posting on our Facebook page, because there had been some inappropriate postings that had nothing to do with the taxpayers. Since the restrictions were made, postings have been better. Anne Coiley has been and will be posting information about items of importance to the island, Ship Bottom and SBTA.

JCTA – Barbara Bishop

Barbara attached a summary of what the JCTA was working on:

- Island wide cleanup
- Bringing awareness about the need for volunteers for the EMS and Fire departments.
- Looking for a list from the county of all the taxpayers (the county is updating their lists and is removing anyone who works as a public servant).
- Flooding Committee – they are still in discussions with Resilient LBI.
- Wind Farm facts and data round-up #11 will be out by the end of next week

Karen said that she was volunteering for the wine event for the Lighthouse International Film Festival on May 5th, at the Marlin/Tuna Club in Beach Haven. She will report back to tell us how it went, since we had previously discussed having a similar event.

Old Business

Ship Bottom Budget -Barbara Bishop

Barbara reported that Kathleen Flanagan was not back from sick leave yet. The preliminary budget should be released soon. All additions to the budget must be submitted at the Preliminary Budget Hearing. Jacqui and Mary both want to be on the budget committee

Some suggestions were:

- repair of the fence and wind guards for the pickleball courts
- more courts
- dog park
- dune signs (it is believed these are already in the works by the borough)

The budget committee will meet so that we can make any recommendations that we feel need to be addressed.

Insurance – Greg Fath (via written report)

We are going through the VanDyk Agency for a D&O policy (Directors and Officers), and Liability Policy. One of the reasons we need insurance is for any event that we may sponsor in the future. We can pay the premium in installments.

New Business

Location for In-Person Board Meetings (beginning in May?)

Let Barbara know if you have any suggestions.

There was a question about the sale of the school, but no news. Still under litigation.

There was a discussion about the Master Plan. This plan is reviewed every 10 years. When it is up for review, requests can be made to make changes to Ordinances already in place. Input is given at the Land Use Review Board, and Council.

Event Planning

Chalk Painting – Kat Leifeste

- Letters to business owners, and flyers were delivered to various locations around town.
- LBI Pancake donated coupons for kids.
- Haymarket donated 96 boxes of Crayola colored chalk, and the prizes (3) for the winners.
- The flyer was also sent to the schools.
- Dan generously donated 100 color copies of the flier.
- There will be two local artists to act as Judges.
- Kat is going to continue to reach out to more of the businesses in town.
- The event is on April 29, (rain date is April 30th) from 10 to 4.
- Let Kat know if you can help and if so, be there around 8 – 8:30 to set it up.

4/15 Cleanup

John H informed us that on April 15th there is a clean-up near the Surf City Fishery. Volunteers are needed to help pick up trash, etc. Meet at the clock on 9th St at 9AM

General Membership Meeting /Elections

Plans are underway to decide on what we will be doing for the meeting. Some possible speakers are the Mayor, Fire, and Police Chiefs, but more suggestions are needed to plan the event. If you have any ideas, send them to Barbara.

Denise will check to see what is going on around the Island so we can plan the date accordingly.

Newsletter will only go out to paid members.

The meeting ended and the Board went into Executive Session.

Next Board Meeting will be for **current board members only** on 05/04/2023. It will be held in person at a location to be determined and via Zoom.