

Ship Bottom Taxpayers Association - Board of Directors Meeting

05/08/2024 – 7 pm

Present – Karen Drucker, John Hiros, Joanne Tallon, Kat Leifeste; Via Zoom – Dan Von Schaumberg, Rob Vidal, Blair Stiefbold; excused Greg Fath and John Montone

Approval of minutes – April Meeting

Guest Speaker – Ken Yankowski, Land Use Board Chairman

- Ken stated that in Ship Bottom the **Land Use Board** is a combination two entities:
 - **Planning Board** – focus on “permitted use”. They prepare and adopt the master plan which sets the tone for the future of the borough, review proposed ordinances and hear complaints, site and subdivision applications.
 - **Zoning board** - focus on what is “not permitted”. Decide on disputes related to zoning ordinances and grant variances.
- He proposed a process to change the master plan and recommended getting an advocate to achieve success in making change.
- He provided a detailed written description of the types of variances.
- John H asked about whether anything has been done with the tax money being collected for Open Space. To date there is no movement on that.
- Ken encouraged folks to come to the next Land Use Board meeting on 5/21 where the LBI school will be discussed. He encouraged us to send out a “heads up” to our members to attend this meeting.

Treasurer’s Report – Rob Vidal – No expenses incurred this past month. Membership monies continues to be deposited. Account balance - \$5393.14.

- Kat provided an invoice for the porta potty from the Chalk Art event for \$233.51 and she will review the expenses of the chalk art event and provide a report to Karen and Rob with receipts.

Committee Reports:

Beautification –

- Dan (Sunset Point) Volunteers continue to meet to maintain the area every Wednesday at 9AM. A labor of love
- John M (General) – John is in Italy, but has sent an amended proposal for the beautification project to Kristy with hopes of having it on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting on May 28th.

Membership – Would be helpful to have someone chair this committee.

- Checks continue to come in from new members, so our mailing has been a success.
- Karen estimates that we have a membership of 175 at present.

Communications – Still looking for a volunteer > any suggestions?

JCTA – Karen/Greg –

- Toy Box approved by Town Council on a trial basis. SB will build the box for us.
- Karen states that 10,000 fliers will be made for all realtors that have information on bike safety and information on the proposal for renters to drop off unused food to the 3 realtors participating in this effort at the end of their rental time. This food will be brought to St Francis for distribution. She proposed that board members can take turns picking up and delivering the food to St Francis.

Old Business

Chalk Art 2024 – What a great success for our first non-rainout event!

- Kat reports that there were 23 “squares” used the day of the event. She thanks the many who helped in making the day a success.

Bike Safety Brochures – See above.

- Karen also showed an image of signs she saw that said “Wrong way/ ride with traffic”

Term Limits - review previous updates for current board members

- We had proposed that there be no limits at a prior meeting. Will be discussed further at a future meeting.

New Business

Suggestions for guest speakers – purpose is to learn more about all facets of our borough.

- Will address in the Fall.

Meet the Candidates interviews –

- Karen suggested 4 questions that we can ask each of the 4 Town Council candidates and pass their responses on to our membership.

Start high level planning for next general membership meeting. No date set as yet, but will be in September and we will honor our First Aid Squad at this time.

Update by-laws to include business memberships. – this will be completed adding the membership fee and information regarding business membership

Monthly Borough Meetings (calendar with rotating volunteers to attend) – Whomever attends should send a “highlights” recap to our board which can also be sent to all active members via email.

Land Use Board mtg: Tuesday, May 21 @ 6:30 pm - Joanne

School Board mtg: Tuesday, May 28 @ 6:30 pm - John H

Town Council mtg: Tuesday, May 28 @ 6:30 pm – Greg and/or Karen

NEXT SBTA MEETING June 6, 2024 @ 7 pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Leifeste, Secretary

