



## June 2016 Membership Meeting Minutes

Holgate Taxpayers Association

P.O. Box 1326, Holgate, New Jersey 08008

[www.holgatetaxpayers.org](http://www.holgatetaxpayers.org)

- The **June 2016 Holgate Taxpayers Membership Meeting** was called to order at 10:00 AM. Following opening remarks by President, Dan Macone, and a quick overview of the meeting's agenda, Dan introduced the Board of Directors and Trustees of the Holgate Taxpayers Association (HTA). Dan also talked about the process by which Long Beach Township officials sought the Association's input on the color and name to be placed on the water tower. He explained that 93% of over 300 respondents were in favor of the name change to "Holgate". He read a couple of the e-mails received from residents during the survey and commented on the "esprit de corps" that was exhibited by so many respondents.
- **Mayor Mancini** - The Honorable Joseph Mancini, Mayor of Long Beach Township, was the first guest speaker. He said that the low water pressure in Holgate was the result of the water tower being out of service and that they were waiting for the water quality tests to be approved before the water tower could be placed back in service. He expected the results shortly. He said that beach replenishment was going well in Holgate and expected the job to be completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The dune grass planting, which is part of the replenishment project, will be completed in the fall. He also stated that there would be one "switch back" handicapped ramp constructed in Holgate. In addition, one additional handicap access will be constructed in Holgate bringing the total number to three. He also mentioned that Applications need to be submitted to the Township in order to install dune

walk-overs. The US Fish & Wildlife Service turned down the dredging offshore of the inlet due to a conflict with the nursing nurse sharks. This sand could have been used to replenish the beaches in Holgate. However, the Mayor said that they were still working on getting a permit for future jobs. He stated that the bay water was higher because the inlet was getting narrower and shallower. The dredging offshore would correct this problem. He stated that the Long Beach Township tax rate remained unchanged in 2016. He stated that there would be 8 shuttle buses this year and that an app showing the exact location of the buses was available on the Township web page. He mentioned that one All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV – John Deere Gator) would be stationed in Holgate to take handicapped and the elderly to any beach access (not closed during beach replenishment) by calling 609-342-2111. Mayor Mancini answered questions from the attendees concerning the Police Department presence in Holgate. He conceded that it was not what it used to be as the number of full time officers is now 36 as opposed to 42 in the past. He stated that each retired police officer costs the Township \$5 million and the average retirement age is 47. A question was raised concerning the new park to be constructed at the bay end of Osborn. The Mayor stated that Sustainability Coordinator, Angela Andersen, would have additional information in this regard. Another resident raised a question concerning the status of the wetlands between Beck and Starr but the Mayor did not comment on this subject.

- **Commissioner Bayard** – The Commissioner confirmed what the Mayor had said regarding the water tower. He stated that the repair to the Janet Rd. pump station would be done in the fall. He stated that beginning in 2017, the water and sewer bills would be combined on one bill and it would be invoiced quarterly. A water bill would be issued on July 1<sup>st</sup> covering the last 7 months of this year. Several residents brought up pavement issues on a number of streets. Ralph took notes and promised to follow-up. Another resident raised a question concerning the maintenance of vacant lots. Ralph said that if there was an issue, the Health Department

should be called.

- **Officer Megan Keller** talked about the Neighborhood Crime Watch Program. She stated that crime watch residents were the eyes and ears of the neighborhood. She said that if suspicious activity is observed, the Police Department should be called right away and that the caller can remain anonymous. She said that the 911 number goes in the County system and then it is related to the local Police Department. For non-emergencies, she gave the number to call as 609-494-3222. A resident commented about the Police Department patrolling the beaches for illegal fireworks and other infractions utilizing plain cloths officers. Officer Keller thought it was a good idea but due to limited manpower, it probably would not happen.
  - **Angela Andersen**, Sustainability Coordinator for Long Beach Township, stated that Holgate had little need for a clean-up as things were being kept up pretty well. She gave a tutorial on the importance of the root systems of the various plants growing on the dunes. She stated that there needs to be a commitment to watering the new plants once they are put in. A commitment from the ocean front owners is needed either to water the new plants themselves or to allow other volunteers to have access to their water spigot so they can properly care for the new plants. Tentatively a water filling station is going to be installed at the Janet Rd. beach access similar to the one at the bathhouse at the south parking lot. She also stated that a new recycle app was available for Long Beach Township (attached).
  - **Kimberly Belfer**, Outreach Coordinator, Save Barnegat Bay introduced herself. She stated that she develops and executes educational programs for the K-8 students. She applauds the HTA for taking the initiative of
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protecting dunes and that the Saving Barnegat Bay organization would help support HTA's initiative for the stewardship of the dunes.

- Bill Hutson introduced **Steve Onorato**. Steve gave an overview of the condition of the greenhead traps. He mentioned several had been intentionally damaged. Bill stated that there are 173 numbered traps in Holgate and to call him if your trap is not numbered. The numbered traps are being baited now and again at the end of July. The traps in the marsh needed repair due to the weather. Neighbors need to keep an eye on the traps so that people do not damage them. Each box costs \$125 to build.
- Due to time constraints, Ted Stile's report on **LED Lighting** was not discussed. This will be done at a subsequent meeting.
- Eileen Bowker, Bowker's Deli, and Joni Bakum, Recreational Coordinator for Long Beach Township, talked about the **Upcoming Events on Long Beach Township** this summer. The HTA is sponsoring one of the events on Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. The band DJ Meatball will give a free concert. Come join us for a "Hot Time in Holgate" at the south parking lot. They also stated that on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a "Hoedown in Holgate" from noon to 4:00 pm in the south parking lot. This will be a Texas Size afternoon of fun with free music by Garage Kept and Lovelight.
- Dan Macone read the Treasurer's report for Bill Cannon. The budget (below) was recommended for approval by the trustees at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> trustees meeting. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the

HTA 2016 budget. There was no discussion and the budget was unanimously approved by the membership in attendance.

- Dan Macone spoke to encourage residents to get involved in the HTA and to actively participate in the current activities.
  - A motion was made and duly seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:15 pm.
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**HTA Treasurer's Report**

<b>Fiscal Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Budget 2016</b>	<b>Budget 2015</b>	<b>Actual 2015</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>6,226</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>3,000</b>		<b>6,493</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>12,719</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Business Expense</b>			
<b>Bank fees</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Donations</b>			
<b>Beach Haven First Aid Squad</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Beach Haven Volunteer Fire Dept</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Jacques Cousteau (Tony Rocca)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Fund of Mike Styles</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Dune Grass</b>	<b>13,118</b>	<b>6,625</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fall BBQ</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>Greenhead Traps</b>			
<b>New Traps</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Repairs/Maintenance</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,505</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,505</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>327</b>
<b>Joint Taxpayer Association Dues</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Legal - Bylaw Review</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>			
<b>Spring Newsletter</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>608</b>
<b>Fall newsletter</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>New Letterhead</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Tax receipt</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>748</b>
<b>Other</b>			
<b>Bench</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Chili Cook-off</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Surf Competition</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other - TBD</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Post Office Box</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>136</b>
<b>Refreshments Spring Meeting</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Spring Clean Up</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>State Registration</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>

