

## **Holgate Taxpayers Association Membership BBQ Meeting Minutes**

Bond's Park, September 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM by Rand Pearsall. Rand thanked the members present for their support of HTA activities and recognized the Trustees present for their work this year.

### **INVITED GUESTS' PRESENTATIONS**

- Commissioner Ralph Bayard covered current LBT updates.
- Virginia Retting presented information about Forsythe Preserve and the importance of the preserve to preserving endangered species, like Piping Plovers, on LBI.
- Mike Pagnotta gave an overview of Island's End development and his commitment to the Holgate area.
- All guests had a Q&A session after their presentation.
- Rand Pearsall noted after the presentations that the HTA has worked closely with the Township and asked our members to do the same as LBT already invests significant time and effort in Holgate. If issues arise, please first try contacting Public Works. If the issue is not resolved, please contact a member of the HTA for assistance. This has proven to be more productive than dropping the matter in frustration or only criticizing the Township on social media.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

- There were three new members signed up at the BBQ bringing total membership to 399. This is a significant increase over the 2018 total of 309.

### **TRUSTEE ELECTIONS**

- Voting was reopened at 5 PM and closed at 6 PM so new members, and those who had not voted online, could vote at registration table.

### **OFFICER ELECTIONS**

- Officer positions of First Vice President Eileen Bowker, Treasurer Bill Cannon, and Corresponding Secretary Yanni Kaloudis were announced by Rand Pearsall as not being contested. Rand requested a show of hands to vote. There were 28 yes and 1 no. All 3 officers were re-elected for two-year terms.

### **BY-LAWS RATIFICATION**

- Frank Benintendo, By-Laws committee chairman, discussed proposed By-Law changes and took questions from the members. Rand Pearsall requested a show of hands to adopt the revised By-Laws. Vote was 26 yes and 3 no. By-Law changes were accepted.
- Per one member's comment, the trustees will review the name of the HTA since not all members are direct taxpayers however we noted this was not a change in the By-Laws (homeowners have been defined as "home, condo, co-op or trailer owners and year-round residents") and that renters contribute to the tax base, albeit indirectly.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6 PM.