

HOLGATE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2019

ATTENDEES: Frank Benintendo, Marianne Hurley, Bill Hutson, Yanni Kaloudis, Frank Lowry, Dan Macone, Rand Pearsall, Bob White
CALL IN: Denise Brand, Bill Cannon, Ted Stiles
ABSENT: Eileen Bowker

Meeting called to order at 11:02 AM by Rand Pearsall. Quorum was established. Yanni Kaloudis made motion to approve the June 1 and June 8, 2019, meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Frank Lowry and unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

While there was no formal Treasurer's report, key financials were summarized.

- \$17,541.19 in total contributions received from our 388 members.
- We have spent \$6,816 of the \$31,727 in available funds. Largest budget line items:
 - \$12,500 dune plantings.
 - \$3,000 green head traps (money was spent, we have not reimbursed yet).
 - \$2,500 for the Giant Clam – stand order but not paid for.
 - \$1,600 for membership recruitment, much work done by email.
 - \$1,550 for legal fee By-Law review.
 - \$1,300 Government Relations committee.
 - \$1,200 community events
 - \$1,000 BBQ
- Bill Cannon noted we should look to spend more money and not accumulate more cash.

HTA ELECTION

- HTA will elect 9 Trustees from a list of 10 candidates for a two-year term.
- Officer positions of First Vice President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer also for a two-year term are not contested this year.
- Voting to begin Sunday, Sept 8 and ends on Wednesday, Sept 11 at 11:00 PM.
- Additional voting will re-open at the HTA Fall Meeting/BBQ at 5:00 PM on September 14, and will end at approximately 6:00 PM the same day.
- Votes will be validated on Saturday and results will be announced by Sunday

HTA FALL MEETING AND BARBEQUE

- Saturday, September 14, 2019, Bonds Park starting at 5 PM.
- Trustee and Officer elections by active members who have not voted will be 5- 6 PM.
- New members are welcome, can sign up for membership and will be allowed to vote.
- Planned guests are Commissioner Ralph Bayard, Virginia Retting, Forsythe Preserve, and Mike Pagnotta, Island's End developer. After speeches, guests will answer questions.
- Following discussion, there will be a vote to ratify revised By-Laws.

BEACH CONDITIONS AND ACCESS POINTS

- Dan Macone will attend September 9, LBT Commissioners meeting to verify plans for dune reshaping on beach 1 and 2, plus plans for beach 3 and 4.
- Army Corps of Engineers are due back to LBI 2022. If we need to do a letter writing campaign to repair beaches 1 thru 4, we need to develop a plan of action.
- Concerns about stakes for reshaping dunes being placed so far west and how dune grass will be impacted and replanted.
- Dan reported dune fencing will be returned to west edge of dunes by LBT.
- Rand Pearsall advised he has spoken to Ralph Bayard and Andy Baran to confirm damaged beach handicap entrances, railings and hard pack will be repaired.
- Bill Hutson advised that annual Boy Scouts planting of dune grass will be October 19.

PERSHING AVENUE

- Home owners on Pershing Avenue have complained about sand blowing into their houses and onto the street.
- Dan Macone to meet with LBT Friday to discuss plantings to control blowing sand.

SHORE RENTAL TAX

- Tax repeal has been signed by Governor Murphy but final interpretation is pending. NJ Shore Tax Coalition is asking for more donations to fund legal and lobbyist support.

JANET ROAD PUMP STATION

- Bob White reported the pump house fence has been completed and the overall project has a very nice appearance. Janet Road home owners near location are pleased.
- Bob is currently developing a list of requests from these home owners to complete landscaping area and construct a pathway from Janet Road to West Avenue.
- Dan Macone will help follow up with Ralph Bayard and Andy Baran to confirm these projects will be completed this fall.

FALL DUNE PLANTING DATE

- Denise Brand reported next planting date will be October 19.
- Country Corner will advise about suitable plant types.
- Entrances to be planted are Jacqueline and Pershing Avenues. Denise emphasized planting success depends on water source and use of soil and water gel.
- Mike Pagnotta to be advised of date as he has said he will provide people for planting.

TEBCO TERRACE UPDATE

- Denise Brand advised status of meetings with home owners and builders on plans as result of LUB meetings and vote.
- This project is an example of how residents, builder/developer and LBT work together for a compromise that helps everyone with quality of life issues.

LUB TRAILER VARIANCE APPLICATION

- Bill Hutson reported he is trying to work with neighbors and reduced his request from 4 to 3 trailers on his lot to house employees prior LUB meeting on September 11.
- Several people have advised being unhappy with HTA's involvement (or lack thereof) with this project. Rand Pearsall asked Trustees to advise people that want to complain about this or similar projects to call or email him.
- Bill Cannon stated HTA should do a better job of more quickly communicating its position on controversial issues in the community.

GIANT CLAM

- Denise Brand reported the artist's painting is complete and Giant Clam will be on display at September 14 BBQ.
- Dan Macone advised Giant Clam's location in South End parking lot, right side entrance, has been accepted by LBT.
- Ted Stiles discussed concrete slab base and installing 4 bolts to hold display stand.
- Pending further review and discussion, memorial pavers may be installed around the display stand base.
- Bill Cannon requested the total expenditures to complete the project so this may be properly included in the budget.
- When HTAT allowed Clam to be used in 2019 Ship Bottom Christmas parade, ReClam the Bay decorated it and HTA incurred cost to repair the surface for final painting.
- Discussion of various costs issues were tabled until next meeting to have a clear understanding of costs involved.

HOLGATE UPDATE

- Questions were asked about Holgate Update website members because there have been negative posts about Holgate beach conditions. Marianne Hurley expressed concern about Holgate's overall reputation and potential rental issues for home owners and hotels.
- Yanni Kaloudis stated there are approximately are approximately HU 4,000 members (1,600 or more do not live on LBI or Holgate).
- Many commented that because we can't control the condition of the beaches, nor can anyone prevent negative comments on social media, we should focus on trying to contribute positive information about the beaches.

GREEN HEAD TRAPS

- Bill Hutson advised 8 new traps have been constructed.

HOLGATE WETLANDS TRACT

- LBT announced their intention to acquire the 22-acre bayside tract between Rosemma and Beck Avenues as a natural habitat within Holgate community.
- If successful, LBT plans 10-16 parking spaces and a bathroom but no other development. Rand noted this helps fulfill NJ desire for better shore access.
- HTAT needs to get an update on LBT plans and report at the next Trustee meeting.

NEXT HTAT MEETING

- Next HTAT meeting date is to be determined (but by-laws state it must be within 2 months of the election)

Motion to adjourn meeting Rand Pearsall, second by Frank Benintendo and unanimously passed at 1:05 PM.