

HOLGATE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2020, Via Conference Call

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

- **ABSENT:** Denise Brand, Yanni Kaloudis

Meeting called to order at 1:03 PM by Rand Pearsall. Quorum was established. Eileen Bowker made motion to approve the November 9, 2019, meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Bill Cannon and unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S UPDATE

- Bill Cannon presented the attached Treasurer's report showing the final numbers for 2019. Summary, revenues \$18,191 vs expenses \$14,774.
- Greenhead traps expenditures for 2019 were closer to \$3,000.
- He requested all Trustees submit their expenses and cash checks on a timely basis so costs align better with the year incurred.
- Bill will be working on 2020 budget and wants all chairpersons to send him their spending needs by end of February.
- Budget for 2020 will be prepared for Trustees approval at HTAT May 30, meeting and the membership HTA June 6, meeting.
- Bank balance is growing each year so we need to continue investigating and implementing projects that will be beneficial to Holgate residents.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

- Bill Cannon reported the final membership count for 2019 was 404 members which is the highest in HTA's history.
- Current membership for 2020 is 213, based on trends in 2019 and 2018 we should continue to receive membership responses to the mailings in January.
- Bill is requesting three more mailings, Spring meeting announcement, June membership drive and Fall BBQ announcement.
- Additional ways being considered to drive membership is to schedule a "meet and greet" at someone's house or place of business; revive the concept of street captains and asking members to volunteer to recruit new members.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND PLANS

- Rand Pearsall reviewed the attached Committee assignments and Chairs.
- Eileen Bowker agreed to Chair the Community (Safety and Social) Committee.
- Goal for 2020 is to do more community and social activities.
- Committee chairmen need to send Rand their individual Committee plans by the end of February.

BEACH CONDITIONS ACCESS POINTS AND JETTY EXTENSION

- Rand Pearsall mentioned Virginia Rettig would like to attend an HTAT meeting, her involvement in working with HTAT will help with Jetty extension and other potential actions in or bordering the Preserve.
- Rand was approached by an ocean front homeowner/attorney HTA member wanting to consider a suit against ACOE to get a better access to beaches three and four. This new approach, how and if this could work, will be reported on at May HTAT meeting.

DRAGON FLY PONDS

- Ted Stiles discussed the possibility to create tests for dragon fly larva to be purchased and used on volunteer home owner's lots in Holgate to observe if dragon flies actually can destroy mosquito, greenhead and black flies.
- Fresh water is needed to hatch the dragon flies and a few bird baths would be ideal.
- The plan is for Ted doing additional research about starting tests and purchasing dragon fly larva for \$500. By the May 30, meeting Ted will have a specific guide to initiate the plan, outline the success that is expected and where to place "ponds" on preferred properties. HTA will then ask for volunteers to conduct the test.
- Going forward this will be part of the Green Head Trap budget.

GREEN HEAD TRAPS

- Ted Stiles reviewed the past history of Green Head Trap designs. HTA worked with Rutgers University on the original design many years ago, that design was updated in 2018.
- Ted feels there could still potentially be another more attractive round design that could be developed in various sizes to get more traps placed on properties in Holgate. Scientifically we would need a comparison showing expected improvement. The new round design will be further studied by Ted. He will have details at the HTAT May 30, meeting. Volunteers will be needed to try the new design.
- Suggestion agreed to by all is greenhead traps need to be put out earlier this spring. Due to the mild winter it seems likely insects could be profusely active earlier this coming season.
- Dan Macone has started a conversation with the Mosquito Control Commission to review HTA plans and get an update on any new information they might have to help our efforts for 2020.
- Dan Macone stated there is a 100' LBT right away with over grown vegetation at Cleveland and West, bay exposure, that has never been treated to reduce mosquito population.
- HTA is working with LBT and The Mosquito Control Commission to identify areas that haven't been sprayed in past few years.
- It was suggested this item become a Government Relations item.

SPRING DUNE PLANTING

- Rand Pearsall stated spring dune planting date will be May 16.
- There are a lot of members that have volunteered for planting.
- Denise Brand has been in touch with Reynolds Garden Center about plants.
- The Dune Planting committee will check entrances to see how the variety of plants installed Fall 2019 have survived and are thriving. Based on the committee's observation decisions will be made on what will be planted this spring.
- The committee is considering planting areas where there are double dunes. Oceanfront owners will need to provide permission and water for the HTA to plant on these sites.
- Priority continues to be dunes at beach entrances, they will be identified and sent to Trustees in April.

SPRING CLEAN-UP

- Rand Pearsall ask for a volunteer to be Chairperson of this event, there were no volunteers. He also stated that all Trustees should be involved.
- Various dates were discussed May 9, 23 and 30 based on number of members that would available.
- Dan Macone stated this project could be part of Government Relations committee and Dan would like to see a later date based on when he returns to LBI, which may be mid-May.
- Eileen Bowker suggested she felt membership children should be involved.
- Event should offer refreshments and a social time when project is completed.
- Rand Pearsall requested Dan Macone and Eileen Bowker determine date and schedule of events.

PUBLIC SPACE UPDATE – RAND PEARSALL

- **LBT Open Space Review**

LBT is currently reviewing throughout the township all public property easements based on their recent surveys.

- **LBT Plans for Area Around Old Coast Guard Station-** The Palotta's entrance to their house may need to be changed to come from Joan Avenue as the current West Avenue entrance goes directly across LBT property.
The property around the new Pump House is larger in size than previously assumed. LBT reports, in no specific order, LBT residents' suggestions for use of any public property are a variety of ideas ranging from dog run, additional parking, pickle ball court, improving the public beaches and recreational facilities already in place, i.e. tennis courts, basketball, playground, public beach. Rand to formally recommend to LBT the formation of a committee to help determine what can be done with the LBT property around the new Pump House, along with planning for other open space in Holgate.
- **LBT Plans for Wash-over Area-** LBT has acquired this bayside tract. LBT potentially plans building a bathhouse with restrooms, 10 to 16 parking spaces on the site. This will fulfill the State of NJ's desire for better beach and ocean access. The balance of the area would remain a natural habitat within Holgate.
- **Status of Stockton Facility on Osborne-** The Marine Education Field Station construction should be completed by June. HTA can work with LBT to use this facility for Community activities. Parking is limited.

2020 ELECTION PLANNING: ELECTION OF 3 OFFICERS

- Rand Pearsall read Bob Whites report as follows: As described in the By-Laws, Article III, Section I, Paragraph B and C: B The officers of the Corporation shall be elected by the Board of Trustees after the Fall Membership Meeting and based on the following schedule: President, Second VP and Recording Secretary in even numbered years. First VP, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer in odd number years. C New officers shall assume office at the next scheduled Trustee meeting, which should be held within 2 months of the election.
- The officers up for election are: Rand Pearsall President, 2nd VP Dan Macone and Recording Secretary Bob White.
- Bob will send an email to each of these officers August 1 to confirm they want to run for another 2-year term. The confirmation from these officers will be announced at the September 5, HTAT meeting and at the September 12 General Membership meeting. The Trustees will vote on the slate at the November 7, HTAT meeting.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

- Dan Macone expressed disappointment the three new additional lights were not connected for the past holiday season. LBT was equally disappointed.
- AC Electric needs to connect them and AC Electric could not schedule them before the holidays due to their workload.
- Dan advised HTA is purchasing two more lights to bring the total to eleven lights, cost is under \$1,700. due to a preseason offering which HTA took advantage
- Dan will contact AC Electric about connecting all the lights after 2020 Memorial Day providing a wider time frame to accommodate well before the 2020 winter holiday season. LBT plans to have all lights up by end of September.

GIANT CLAM

- Ted Stiles reported on three possible sites for installation of Giant Clam. The sites are 1. Where a bike rack currently is located north side bath house. 2. Right side of Bathhouse 3. At end of crosswalk, across from Jolly Roger Motel. There was a lengthy discussion about possible locations and many questions. During the HTAT meeting trustee Bill Hutson accessed and reported first hand all three sites at the South End Parking lot. More discussion transpired.
- Ted committed to visit LBT in the next few days to get with Kyle Ominski to select several options that are OK with LBT as well offer high visibility and safety for the Giant Clam.
- Ted will report back to Rand Pearsall and Rand will notify Trustees of the location/location options.
- Goal is to have this installed by Memorial Day weekend.

JCTA UPDATE AND FOCUS BAY FLOODING

- Bill Hutson reported Joint Council of Taxpayers Association is working with LBT on trying to relieve some of the flooding on Long Beach Blvd.
- To help control the flooding LBT is installing two Storm Water Outfall Pumps and five Storm Water Check Valves in the Bayview Park and 96th street areas. The equipment will be operational by March.
- LBT will review how effective the equipment is at these sites and then make a decision to install at a 3rd site.

SOUTHPORT DREDGING PLANS

- Rand Pearsall advised that LBT has received approval and funds for dredging several bay channels. Southport community was not included in this project. They expressed interest only in having the Southport entrance channel dredged.
- HTA has contacted the Southport Homeowners Association urging they should meet with LBT to include dredging in their area ASAP as they may be able to be included in the overall plan.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- May 30, 1-3 PM at Rand Pearsall's home, 3001 South Long Beach Blvd.

SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- June 6, 10-12 AM at Town Hall.
- LBT Commissioners will be invited to attend and do Q&A.

NEW BUSINESS

- Rand Pearsall stated possible member giveaways will be reviewed by the Marketing Committee. Suggestions include a tee shirt, water bottles, items that members would use; HTA needs to set objectives, budget and what type logo on items.
- Bill Cannon requested the next email to members request volunteers to join a committee and list all HTA committees.
- Pershing Avenue still has sand blowing on residents' properties. Several suggestions were recommended-installing a longer section snow fence and install stone on pathway to Bay. Another option may be to plant larger plant material there. HTAT will check with LBT for additional options.
- Because of the extreme shortage of seasonal workers LBT has purchased The Long Beach Inn which will be converted to housing for seasonal workers such as lifeguards and restaurant employees. This activity will be used as a test by LBT.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Hutson, seconded by Marianne Hurley and unanimously passed at 2:22 PM.