

Holgate Taxpayers Association Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 Time: 7:02 – 8:05 pm Via: Zoom

ATTENDEES: Frank Benintendo, Denise Brand, Bill Cannon, Bill Hutson, Yanni Kaloudis, Dan Macone, Rand Pearsall, Bob White

ABSENT: Ted Stiles

Meeting was called to order by Rand Pearsall at 7:02 pm and a Quorum was established.

Motion to approve Minutes for January 25, 2022 meeting was made by Bill Cannon and seconded by Frank Benintendo, motion was unanimously approved.

Beach Conditions - Rand

- Beaches are looking good because of mild winter without major storms and the continued work by LBT.
- The plowing on beaches has created a more gradual slope which we hope will hold thru the Spring.
- LBT is ready to move ahead with 1-3 steel jetties to be built with the approval of the Wildlife Preserve.
- The Wildlife Refuge states they have not seen the plans so Rand will check with Mayor Mancini to see if the plans have been sent to the Wildlife Refuge for approval.-(subsequently, Rand confirmed Mayor Mancini said the original plans have not changed and are in the possession of the Refuge).
- Rand also stated the Wildlife Refuge is making more contact with the surrounding neighborhood and has realized community outreach is important.

Member Survey – Rand

- Rand has not sent the JCTA survey results to HTA membership but will do this in May.
- This will give HTA members an opportunity to rate priorities from 1 to 5 and about how satisfied is the membership with HTA performance.
- Bill Cannon suggested HTA uses this as a Marketing tool to help increase membership.

Covid-19 Status – Rand

- There is sobering news from Hong Kong about a new outbreak of a variant of Covid-19.
- We all need to remain cautious with our daily contacts and hope the new variant does not spread thru New Jersey.

2022 Committee Plans - Rand

- Rand asked all Committee Chairman to topline their projects that are critical or new for 2022. Don't go thru every detail just cover in general where you are on projects.
- Be sure to review any new projects that will require funding so Bill Cannon can prepare 2022 budget to present at May 17 meeting for approval.

By-Laws Committee – Frank B.

- Frank advised there are currently no new changes or additions to By-Laws, if there are any please let Frank know.
- Next project is to get By-Laws signed by all Trustees.
- The current election process is now correct, with the resignation of three Trustees the election process is now six Trustee/Officers each year.

Community Events/Safety Committee – Bill H.

- Bill stated there is a meet and greet party being planned for members and non-members in June.
- Bill Cannon advised notice for event will go to both members and non-members.
- Rand advised he could include notice in the monthly newsletter.

Dune Planting Committee – Denise

- Denise reported she has been in touch with Reynolds and they are planning on a very modest price increase and will have a full stock of plants for HTA's May 21st planting day.
- We now need to promote the May 21st date for volunteers to plant, check for a water source and members to water plants thru the balance of the year.

Environment Committee – Bill H. Ted

- Bill advised there is a member that volunteered to work on his committee, Joe Chiesco who lives in the Clam Cove area and wants to concentrate on greenhead traps in that area.
- Bill has set training for Joe C. with Mark, who works for Bill H. on building 10 traps, baiting, repairing and storing traps.
- Bill also advised the Committee purchased a large quantity of bait from our supplier which may go out of business or be sold, which was a good value.
- Bill stated they want to test two new traps this year. Ted has built a new design trap that was tested but was not strong enough. He is now going to design a smaller, friendlier design and will need \$200 to purchase materials, Ted will build 10 traps that will have shorter legs so the trap will be closer to the ground.
- Bill built a smaller version of original Greenhead trap and will need \$200 for materials. He will then build 10 new traps to be tested using the Rutgers design but a smaller version.
- Goal is to have 20 new traps available for this year.
- Bill advised they need to change storage of traps to a different area as using LBT to transport traps to and from storage damages to many traps.
- Bill also advised they have been trying to identify the biting flies that have been caught in the test trap.
- Frank B. took the trap to Rutgers last year, but too much time elapsed for the flies to be identified.
- Bill said they will need \$100 to purchase new traps that can catch flies and one be taken to Rutgers to identify the flies being caught.
- Frank B. said now he will work with Bill to immediately take the trapped flies to Rutgers for quick identification.

Government Relations Committee – Dan

- Dan advised HTAT approved February 20,2022 the motion by Rand to approve \$2,400 for the purchase of 2 new holiday lights and the replacement of 1 broken light.
- Dan also requested Rand help set up a meeting with new Police Chief to cover several projects.
- One project is to replace 10 of the 20 very small signs that state bike safety information but are hard to read, the 10 new signs will be large and much more visible will state Walk Left – Ride Right.
- Second project is to discuss the new state law that requires all New Jersey townships to be very aggressive in forcing the procedure that requires vehicles when approaching a bicyclist must move over 4 feet and only travel at 25MPH if safe to do so. On the Blvd. in Holgate, which is only a narrow 2 lane road, this will make a motorist drive in the opposite/approaching lane of traffic, which will create an unsafe situation.
- Third project is to discuss stenciling painted information on walkway along edge of Blvd. referencing walking and riding bikes the correct direction.

- Dan will check on the LBT Flashing Sign to be stationed at the entrance to Holgate stating the correct way to walk and ride bikes.
- Dan will work with Jamey Beckman on a HTA \$200 donation for ShellAbration Festival.

Membership Committee -Bill C.

- Bill advised the goal is 500 members.
- Recruitment includes 3 or 4 direct mailings, January tax letter, May-Spring meeting, August-Fall BBQ plus 1 additional mailing.
- Continue use of Street Captains appoint in April, Trailer Park outreach by Ted Stiles and Bill Hutson, Interaction on Holgate Update Page.
- Hold a new member social event with wine and cheese at the new Marine Field Station
- For new membership, offer discount card to 12 local businesses; continue information folders which Denise has prepared.
- Subject of a new HTA banner came up; it was decided Denise will buy and design a new banner for use at all events, Denise has also purchased business cards as a test.
- Bill will also list 68 members from 2020 that didn't renew membership in 2021. We can use this list of former members so they can be contacted and understand why they didn't renew their membership.

Nominating Committee – Bob, Rand

- The Trustee Officers whose terms are finished in 2022 have been contacted and they all want to run for another two-year term 2023-2024. They are Rand Pearsall President, Dan Macone Vice President and Bob White Secretary. Voting electronically for trustees will be late July 30 days prior to September General Membership meeting when results will be announced. Trustee/Officers will vote on Officers slate at the November meeting.
- At this time there are no Trustees to be candidates for 2023-2024 terms. In 2021 the three current Trustees who would be candidates have resigned.
- Rand Pearsall has received several inquires to be a Trustee from current members. He has talked with all of them reviewing duties of a Trustee, here is the current status.
- **Jeff Lipman, Hank Henninger and Scott Butler**-each have requested a Trustee Nomination Form which has been sent to them. (subsequent to the trustee meeting, **Nick Dottino** also requested a form and this was provided).
- **Catherine Jump**-is not interested at this time, she will get back to Rand if her status changes.
- **Barbara Vail, Bob Grossman and Lee John Prochazka**- inquired but will look to serve on a committee at this time.
- **Mike Widico and Cindy Wanek**-deferring at this time.
- Rand has stated he is not expecting anyone to turn in the Trustee Nomination Form until they have been back to LBI and in touch with LBI neighbors who would be the likely signers.
- Prepare 1st Quarter Performance Evaluations forms of Officers/Trustees.

Treasurer's Update --Bill C.

- Attached is the Treasurers Report and the start of the budget, we currently project \$18,000 in revenue .
- Goal last year we wanted to over-spend budget and bring down reserve funds. Currently reserves are \$25,000 so goal this year is over-spend budget by \$5,000 bringing down reserves to \$20,000.
- During May HTAT meeting we can hold a formal discussion about budget and look at other comments.
- We are currently have 386 members.

JCTA-Rand

- Rand reported all LBI Townships are now represented by their own Tax Association which puts all home owners in a strong position with LBT thru their tax associations.
- Bill C raised the idea to consider getting Marketing people from all Associations together to discuss what programs they do each year that are successful for them.

Other Business- Rand

- LBT has passed a new ordinance relating to rooftops. Any major structures on top of roof deck such as hot tubs, pergolas and kitchens cannot exceed the legal house height limit. Hot tubs that exceed the limit will have to be removed. The Township will review if other structures will be grandfathered or if they have to be removed. Oceanfront home height limit is based on height above land.
- Unleashed dogs on beach will receive a ticket/fine from LBT; no warnings will be given.
- Illegal parking will also be more strictly enforced this year.

Important Dates-Rand

- JCTA is sponsoring an all-island cleanup, Saturday, May 7, 9AM-noon. Rand would like to have two starting points and will handle the north end and would like someone for south end.
- Next HTAT meeting, Tuesday, May 17 7:00-8:30PM, via Zoom
- General Membership Meeting, Saturday, June 11, 10AM-Location TBD, considering Bonds Park and Marine Field station. The Marine Field Station is OK inside for 50 people. There is a parking issue, so people would have to be notified about parking or see if we could use LBT shuttle bus to make 2 runs thru Holgate.
- Dune Planting, May 21, Time TBD

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:05 by Yanni Kaloudis and seconded by Dan Macone and unanimously approved.