

## Holgate Taxpayers Association Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 Time: 7:01 pm – 9:20pm Via: Zoom

**ATTENDEES:** Frank Benintendo, Denise Brand, Bill Cannon, Bill Hutson, Yanni Kaloudis, Art Levy, Jeff Lipman, Dan Macone, Rand Pearsall, Ted Stiles, Bob White

Meeting was called to order by Rand Pearsall at 7:01 PM and a Quorum was established.

Motion to approve Minutes for November 5, 2022 meeting was made by Dan Macone, seconded by Frank Benintendo and motion was unanimously approved.

### Holgate Topics – Rand P

- Beach Conditions – Funding for replenishment confirmed from federal, state and local sources. Timing TBD, possibly 2024. LBT is seeking approvals to extend the existing steel groin and add 2-3 small steel groins further north. This work should be completed prior to replenishment.
- Water/Sewer Fees – Rand stated there had been no major outcry from the members at the time of our trustee meeting (since then, First Quarter bills were received and many are concerned about cost increases). One person, with experience in this industry, contacted Rand regarding prices. Rand helped them reach out to LBT administrator Kyle Ominski to discuss further. LBT water costs are based on the cost of the water itself (increased charges from other townships) and for infrastructure improvements. The expense is covered by the water fee which is based on the annual cost that is billed quarterly.
- Water Treatment Facility Plans – There is no update on plans for construction at this site.
- End of 2022 Purchases – Rand purchased a Bose S1 Speaker system, a storage shed (to be stored at Rand's house while he is president) and a stainless-steel grill (Yanni to help assemble). Denise bought Holgate shopping bags, business cards for all Trustees, 2 banners, "Dune Great for Holgate" signs and magnetic signs for cars. This is part of the effort to reduce our reserve fund.

### Treasurer's Report – Bill C

- The Treasurer's Report is attached, including the final 2022 budget analysis and 2023 budget planning.
- For 2022, Bill C added a section for the spending approvals in the November meeting. Most of these items were reimbursed in 2023, but Bill included them anyway so everyone can see what we spent.
- Had the end of year expenses counted in 2022, we would have been closer to being on budget.
- Bill H reported we have one year of bait for traps now. Rand asked him to re-contact supplier to check on pricing and determine if we should buy more bait.

### Committee Plans for 2023, Each Committee Plan is attached – All

- Rand advised Committee Chairs to plan project dates as far in advance as possible if they need volunteers to work on projects.

- By-Laws – Frank reported we need to update ARTICLE X- Dissolution so that any remaining funds if the HTA is ever dissolved (not anticipated) must be given to 501c3 organizations. This will allow the HTA to be structured legally to not pay state income tax on purchases. Frank made a motion if we have to dissolve the organization all assets be given to 501C3 non-profit organizations, seconded by Yanni and the motion was unanimously approved. Frank then reported we need to change ARTICLE II - Trustees to increase number from nine (9) to twelve (12) to nine (9) to fifteen (15). There was much discussion and Trustees agreed this gives more opportunity to get members involved and as HTA takes on more projects there needs to be additional Trustees to help with leadership rolls. Rand made a motion to change number of Trustees to 9-15, seconded by Bill H, and the motion was unanimously approved. This motion will have to be approved by a vote of the membership meeting (which may take place electronically).
- Community Events – Jeff presented a well-documented series of activities that covered: Supporting Current HTA Events, New Community Events and Community Building Events. Comments included: it is good to have refreshments at events; great to have events during summer so renters can be involved. It was proposed the HTA could reach out to Sandpaper to publicize scheduled events.
- Government Relations – Dan presented plan which included Attending Monthly Commissioners Meetings, Clean-ups, Holiday Lights and Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety. During Dan’s presentation, he requested approval to buy 2 additional Holiday Lights. Rand made a motion to approve up to \$1,700 for 2 new lights, seconded by Frank and the motion was unanimously approved. Dan also advised one Holiday Light needs repair, which he will do and the Welcome to Holgate sign lights need repair. There was also discussion about adding a second flashing LBT sign, either in Clam Cove area or by entrance to Holgate specifying walking and riding bikes on correct road side. Dan will follow up with LBT.
- Marketing – Art presented suggested new activities which covered Website updates, Social Media Video of HTA Events, T-Rex Traffic Safety Rally, Ongoing social media support for community events, volunteer recruitment and Genius Fly Traps. All Trustees were supportive of the ideas. Only concern was about selling message rights on greenhead traps versus signage explaining benefits of fly traps.
- Membership Recruitment – Bill C presented his plan which included Increasing Membership, Mailings and Services. Goal is increasing membership to 550 in 2023. Other comments: Periodic meetings with other LBI TA membership committees. Community events will drive membership. Focus efforts in areas where impact is proven and has the greatest effect. Also attached is Bill’s 6 -page analysis on Membership Growth which includes Membership Growth 2011 thru 2022, Analysis of 2022 Members, 2021 Members that Renewed in 2022, Growth of Online Membership, Membership by Sections of Holgate Comparing 2016 with 2022 and Sections Defined by North End, Mid-North, Mid-South, South End and Ocean Front.
- Nominating – Bob. Rand P presented on Bob’s behalf. Plan for possible increase to up to 15 Trustees. Confirm the Election process each year by the HTAT meeting that precedes the Spring Membership meeting. Oversee recruitment of new Trustee candidates.
- Dune Planting – Denise suggested we specify the names of the actual activity actually: Beautification in the Spring and Dune Planting in Fall. Key areas in Denise’s plans: Water sources identify homes willing to provide. Watering Volunteers determines how many locations can be planted. We will continue to do transplants of mature native plants from areas where possible.

- Environment – Bill H reviewed Greenhead trap placement and recovery, test new trap designs, build new greenhead traps. Also check on other pests, primarily mosquitos and biting black flies. Make descriptive name plates for greenhead traps \$250. Complete new design traps have 6 now and plan to build 4 more, total 10. Ted is also proposing the new trap design may work best in 3/cluster. Build 10 new greenhead traps \$1,700. There was a question about how many traps they have, guess is around 125 which seems lower than in recent years. They will get a more accurate count this year and advise. We then need to look at the number of traps we need to provide each spring. There are several homeowners that committed to store traps this winter, so that new program worked well on the north end although volunteers on the south end were frustrated with a lack of direction.

#### JCTA Updates – Rand

- First Responders- there still is a major problem with getting more volunteers to be First Responders on the island. LBT is creating a program to pay high school or college students if they go thru certified training and become a driver or EMT specialist.
- Wind Farm Survey – Trustees have been sent copies of survey and it will go out February 16 to members that are participating in survey.
- All-Island Clean-up - scheduled for Saturday morning on September 9 (same day as HTA BBQ)

Trustee Bios – Rand will send us a copy of his bio and each trustee is to create a personal bio to be posted on the HTA website. This is intended to help HTA members know more about us.

Locations for Spring Membership Meeting and Fall BBQ – need to finalize locations for these events.

Mail Chimp – Will be charging a \$27/month fee starting in March. Rand will check with other TAs to see what system they use and how much they pay. MailChimp is critical for HTA messaging.

Business Cards – Denise advised the cards are ready for pick up at her Holgate house. Please contact Denise to set up a time for pick up.

Walking on the Dunes - Frank mentioned his concern about renters walking on the dunes. He asked if there are signs that warn people there is a fine for doing this, there have been signs in the past. Dan M is meeting with LBT people this week and will check and advise if signs are available. Rand suggested we discuss a plan for this initiative at our March meeting.

#### Next Trustee Meeting Date

- Tuesday, March 21, Zoom, 7-8:30 PM

Rand Pearsall made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 PM, seconded by Art Levy and unanimously approved.