

Holgate Taxpayers Association Trustees' Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 20, 2024 Time: 7:30 – 9:30 PM Via: Zoom

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

ABSENT:

Meeting called to order by Rand Pearsall at 7:30 and a quorum was established. Motion to approve May 16, 2024 meeting minutes was made by Frank Benintendo, seconded by Dan Macone and unanimously approved.

Holgate Topics – All

Beach Conditions – Rand

- Replenishment status has been approved and work should be completed before next spring. Barbara Cahn states she saw pictures at low tide, checked out beach and all looks good.

Fall BBQ and Membership Meeting - Rand

- Rand asked for help to set up for Fall Membership Meeting BBQ Saturday September 7 and polled trustees for those who cannot attend; only Denise and Bill Cannon stated they will not be there. Yanni said it is OK to have grill and food from Oakies delivered to his house and he has several large coolers for drinks. Ted Stiles said he would purchase drinks and items he brought last year based on head count which will be available in next few days - last year 120 attended. Denise said she has additional coolers and Holgate Marina can provide ice. Dan said he has paper plates plus knives and forks from prior events. Barb volunteered she has items that would available for use.
- Yanni said he will get a price quote from Bowkers since they are a major Tunes By The Dunes sponsor. Yanni asked Bill Cannon to send him info of what we spent last year on food from Oakies so he can compare Bowkers price.
- Rand asked about tents and large tables, we need 2 tents and 1 sign-in table. Barbara and Yanni stated they have tents and folding tables. Rand asked if musicians have their own electricity or if he should check if we can use Palotta's. Jeff said he will confirm musicians do have own sound equipment.
- Rand and Barbara stated trustees should make it a point of socializing with new member attendees perhaps that could be coordinated with sign in table. A suggestion Rand mentioned was to have Barbara or others helping with sign in table send people to a Trustee to discuss HTA.
- Jeff requested Rand send him specifics about BBQ so he can post on social media and our website.
- Rand will draft and circulate an agenda.

Committee Reports – All

By-Laws – Frank

- Nothing new to report. He needs signature from Bob White on document to finish one project, he will contact Bob at LBI.

Community Events - Jeff

- **Tunes By The Dunes.** Jeff has had wonderful comments from people that have attended. Several have requested to start earlier and run later in season. He heard from LBT they didn't want us to interfere with scheduled fireworks. Jeff suggested we should buy light kits, we need lighting for Tunes event. Appreciation plaques for South End Surf n Paddle and the rest of the Tunes by the Dunes sponsors were given out to those in attendance at the BBQ. Remainder to be distributed later.
- **Photo Contest.** Jeff suggested we post winning photos online and print out to put in public areas. Additionally, he'd like to put the winning photos in frames and bring to BBQ as his budget will cover this expense. Trustees cannot vote on contest entries. Jeff was surprised there weren't more entries. We will promote more next year. South End Surf n Paddle donated 3-paddle board excursions for the 3-winners of the photo contest

Dune Planting – Denise

- Denise will not be able to run dune planting this Fall as she has been traveling a lot this year and will be away. Rand will check with Denise on what is required to run a successful dune planting event and suggested doing 2-3 entrances instead of 6 or 8, because people give donations to do Dune planting. Rand has been contacted by Joe Devito who wants to plant the entrance next to him and he has a sprinkler system. He is next to Carolina Ave. and Rand will meet with him and see what he wants to do.
- Rand stated all plants look good this year except bayberries as several have died and several don't look so good. Denise encouraged not to remove until next spring sometime bayberries are slow starting.
- LBT will be removing black pines due to disease, even though some of these are more than 10 years old and doing well. LBT wants to clear out plants within 10 feet of roadway and requests that we not plant in this area as well. It is a State Law not to block sight line for oncoming traffic when pulling out of street onto roadway. Beach entrances are an easement and may also be paper streets. LBT updated this ordinance because new houses are planting out to edge of roadway.

Environment – Ted

- Ted reported Tom Beatty built 12 new traps which have been placed in southern Holgate area close to West Ave. Tom is able to build more traps, cost HTA \$175 per trap. Ted has checked and found 40 to 60 dead flies in the new round traps. This indicates all new traps are working well, and will check end of season to see which traps do best. Ted is currently mapping where all traps are located.
- We need to determine if it is better to repair old traps or build new.

- Ted also mentioned the need for a utility trailer. Rand asked Ted to make recommendation as to type of trailer and cost. Ted said he would write up a proposal and send to Rand.

Government Relations - Dan

- Dan said Spring and Fall clean-ups only spent \$100. Bowker's gave us coffee and food and never charged us, also same for spring meeting probably \$600. Holiday lights are ready to be put up by LBT.
- Dan mentioned we have 12 Keep Off the Dune signs. The certificates for kids that helped with cleanup have been received and he is getting to them.

Marketing – Art

- No report today.

Membership – Barb

- Barb reported current membership is 496. She has been working on trailer park people to sign up to HTA. Many trailer park residents don't think they are eligible to be members HTA because they don't pay taxes. We need to promote they are eligible. They have all been sent information and sign-up forms.
- At Tunes by the Dunes, 15 people were given information and she will do another mailing in August.
- Can use more volunteers for HTA projects.
- From our survey, Barb reported that older people own most of the houses in Holgate and say they have been in Holgate for 15 years or more. Only 17% say they rent. Rand thought this number was higher in a past survey so he will check out his source and advise Barb. Barb also reported most people tell her they get information about activities in Holgate from HTA newsletters. They also said they would like more social activity, but no specific ideas.

Nominating - Bob

- The election this August is for the following Trustees, Frank, Art, Jeff, Dan and Rand. President, Vice President and Recording Secretary are to be elected by Board in November. Dan does not want run for an officer this year Rand would prefer to serve as President for one more year.

Treasurer's Report – Bill C.

- Bill referenced the attached report. There is currently \$28,000 in CD.

JCTA Update - Rand

- JCTA Summit on membership best practices is scheduled for Saturday September 21, 4-6 pm at Ship Bottom Fire Department. Barb and Denise are scheduled to attend. The HTA is among the top 3 associations on LBI and should be able to help other associations be more successful.

Other Business /Open Discussion - Rand

- Flooding: LBT will buy more pumps, for \$3.8 million dollars to help flooding areas on Boulevard. The county will reimburse LBT for 100% of expense.

- Ocean County Commissioner meetings: Rand has attended one and found it informative. Presence at these meetings may help in having more County funding come back to LBI. He inquired about mainland problems with green head flies, and is exploring if there can be traps placed on the mainland by the County.
- Food Pantry program status. Rand feels the local program has not been managed as well as it could. Program status is uncertain.
- Toy Box program: Jeff has had good feedback from Holgate residents and is following up on continuing program.
- Auto renewal program for HTA membership: Barb asked us to consider offering this program. Payments are now 45% on-line and 55% checks.

Next Trustee Meetings

- Saturday, September 7, 4-7pm, Fall BBQ at Bonds Park
- Saturday, November 2, Time TBD, in person plus Zoom?
- Dan made motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm, seconded by Bill and unanimously approved.