

BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2023

Trustees

Attending:

Rich Brodman
Tony Dandola
Bill Chernelich
Bruce Allen
Wendy Baker
Mary Ann Crutchlow
Kay McDonnell
Scott Neff

Excused/Absent:

Phil Kahn
Jack Byrnes

Board Members:

Excused: Madeline Weinrebe

Rich Brodman called the General Meeting of the BLTA to order at 9:38 AM. The meeting was held at the First Aid Squad Building on 10th Street. Coffee and donuts were provided. The meeting was well attended by members and friends of the BLTA.

Opening Remarks – President Rich Brodman

Rich opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance along with our guest speakers for this morning's meeting: Briana Magner, Mark Pojednic (Captain of the BL First Aid Squad), and Mayor Kirk Larson.

Rich shared with the audience that the BLTA will be purchasing a Defibrillator for the town (and that the town is also purchasing one). Once in place, defibrillators will be located at the Pickleball Courts and The Pavilion. This drew a round of applause from the attendees.

He reminded the public of our upcoming events which include:

1. The BLVFC Auction, sponsored by the Auxiliary, will be held on Saturday, August 5, 2023 – doors open at 6pm – auction begins at 6:45pm – come out and support the fire company.
2. Beach and Town Cleanup on Saturday, September 9, 2023 – meet at the 29th Street porch (oceanside) at 9:00 AM. Grabbers will be given out to each team (and can be taken home). Snacks, Cookies, and Beverages will be offered after the cleanup back on the 29th Street porch.
3. The final BLTA General Meeting of 2023 will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at 9:30 AM. Venue will be either the First Aid Squad hall or The Pavilion – a decision will be made closer to the meeting.
4. The BLTA is offering a viewing of the documentary, *"Drift"* – created by the *SaveBarnegatBay* organization. It will be shown at The Pavilion on Saturday, September 30th at dusk. This will be the first time a movie will be shown outside at The Pavilion. All are welcome to attend. Residents of High Bar Harbor, Loveladies, and Harvey Cedars will be invited as well. More information will be forthcoming.
5. Nominations for new trustees and officers will happen today and nominations from the floor are also welcome.
 - a. Rich Brodman took a moment to introduce the current Trustees: Tony Dandola (vice-president and by-laws); Bill Chernelich (treasurer); Betsy Aras (social media director); Wendy Baker (social media and newsletter); Kay McDonnell (website and platform manager and membership); Scott Neff (social media and wine and cheese event); Maddy Pantzer (Little Free Library and newsletter); Bruce Allen (speaker series and attends all Mayor and Council meetings in BL); Phil Kahn

(membership and meeting setup/audio expert); Jack Byrnes (recording secretary); Madeline Weinrebe (new treasurer for 2024).

Reports

1. **Membership – Rich Brodman**

Rich reported that our membership stands at 596 active members – an impressive number!

2. **Treasurer’s Report – Bill Chernelich**

Bill Chernelich reported that the BLTA Funds Balance at June 30, 2023 stood at \$30,000, which is about \$7,000 higher than last year at this time. The increase is principally due to the non-recurrence of \$4,000 spent in 2022 on our new Membership System. Revenues from dues are \$1,000 behind last year, but that shortfall was made up in the first two weeks of July. Expenses overall are below last year’s level mainly due to less printing and postage. Looking ahead, we plan to spend about \$2,000 this year to provide the Borough with a second AED which will be located at either the Pavilion or the Pickleball courts.

3. **Nominations – Bill Chernelich**

The Nominating Committee is recommending that the following BLTA Board Members be elected to their first three-year term as Trustee at the upcoming September 2023 General Meeting:

Madeline Pantzer

Bruce Allen

Madeline Weinrebe

The floor was opened for additional nominations and there were none. In addition, the Committee recommends the nomination of Philip Kahn to a third three-year term as Trustee and recommends the nomination of Madeline Weinrebe to a first two-year term as Treasurer.

Guest Speakers:

Briana Magner is a technician for the New Jersey Fish and Wildlife in the Endangered and Nongame Species Program. She has a degree in Environmental Sciences from Stockton University. Through a power point slide show Briana talked about the nesting site at Barnegat Light and some of the endangered species she monitors including the Piping Plover, American Oystercatcher, and Least Tern. Currently there are four or five pairs of Piping Plovers who nested and produced young. In Holgate, they have had much success as there are some 50 pairs of Piping Plovers. Her talk was well received by the audience.

Mark Pojednic, Captain of the BL First Aid Squad offered us a visual review of CPR techniques for both adults, children, and infants. The American Heart Association now recommends that for lay people, chest compressions are all that should be done, without interruption. Once first responders arrive, they will take over and add ventilation. Mark also shared information on the defibrillators and how they work. The one he demonstrated is the same one that will be placed at the pickleball courts and The Pavilion. The squad has these defibrillators on all their vehicles and all members are trained in CPR. As a side note, the fire company also carries these defibrillators and all members of the fire company are also trained in CPR/defibrillator use **AND** the lifeguards are trained in CPR and defibrillator use. The lifeguards also carry these same defibrillators on their vehicles that patrol up and down the beach. After the meeting was over, Mark offered folks to give CPR or the Heimlich maneuver a try on one of the provided mannequins.

Mayor Kirk Larson: Mayor Larson spoke on several topics including the Kayaks at the Bay Beach – 19 of which have been removed for no stickers (and they’ve only had one resident come forward to claim that kayak). A new ordinance regarding the planting of bamboo plants is before the council and the second read will happen at their

next meeting. They are working on getting the speed limit on Bayview Avenue reduced to 30mph (or maybe 25mph) during the summer months. He spoke briefly about the Wind Farm Q&A session, run by *SaveLBI*, which will be held on Wednesday, July 26th at 7:30 pm at the LBIF. He also said that the fishermen are doing well – tuna is a big catch these days with boats bringing in over 40,000 lbs.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Aras, Acting Secretary