



BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2016

- I. John Tennyson called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and led the pledge of allegiance.
 - o Opening remarks: First time moving meeting to June from May as experiment to see if attendance improves.
 - o Audience was advised that there will be roving mikes for questions.
 - o Mary Ann Crutchlow was recognized for producing the acclaimed BLTA newsletter. Mary Ann thanked the audience and informed everyone the new Little Free Library to be placed near the Post office has had some construction issues, but should be available for use in August.

- II. Minutes from May BLTA meeting was discussed. Minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Reports

- o Treasurer's Report – Bill Chnelich
Update through June 30, membership dues \$8,460, contributions \$440 totaling \$8,900. Expenses \$5,199, principally for printing and postage of \$2,777 for the annual newsletter and \$389 for the Little Free Library, bringing the Treasury balance TO \$28,743. All reports on website and Facebook
- o Membership and Resident Survey Report – Ed Ebenbach
Ed opened indicating that 2016 BLTA membership is up 36 members above last year, totaling 514 to date, and he thanked the members for their strong support.

The Survey Report was distributed to the audience. Ed explained that the Membership packet and Survey was sent out to 1215 residences –417 of the 459 responders answered the Survey, giving us an excellent 91% response rate. Each section of the Survey Report was discussed in detail:

- Suggestions for use of the Coast guard property - 211 responses with 66% suggesting use as park/garden/open space, 25% as entertainment space, movie night concerts, and a smaller group recommended physical fitness, etc.
- Six Beach issues questions, with their responses and comments:
 - o Beach Litter – 60% satisfied/40% needs improvement
 - o Bike Racks – 62% satisfied/38% needs improvement
 - o Pets on the Beach – 68% satisfied/32% needs improvement
 - o Bay Beach – 69% satisfied/31% needs improvement
 - o Beach Access – 72% satisfied/28% needs improvement
 - o Lifeguard Coverage – 87% satisfied/13% needs improvement
- 60 other written comments raised issues not covered by the Survey such as water meters, Central Ave parking, Dog parks, multi-family housing, and school taxes,



and a variety of other individual matters. Ed stated that most of these "Other Survey Response Comments" would probably be addressed later in the Mayor's portion of the meeting. He went on to say that the regular meetings of the Borough Council offer the public a good opportunity to raise issues/concerns.

- Lastly, Ed discussed responses to Survey questions about the BLTA itself.
- The complete Survey report is now available for general viewing on the BLTA website.

In August there will be a response to the survey regarding the regularly tested water at the bay beach. Dogs at the Bay Beach. Also, a better description of how enforcement needs to be in-place for many concerns discussed today.

- Open Space Report – Barbara Truncellito
Not discussed at this meeting
- JCTA (Joint Council of Taxpayers' Association) Report – John Tennyson
BLTA attends the regularly scheduled LBI joint taxpayer association meeting at the Ocean County Library in Manahawkin.
- Borough Council Report - John Tennyson
BLTA attends all borough council meetings. All borough council meeting minutes are on the website.
- Communications – John Tennyson
BLTA communications needs to become more electronic oriented. The public would be better served if electronic and regular was provided to all members and residents. The BLTA website is: www.banegattaxpayer.org all newsletters available

IV. Presentations with Q&A

- Community Policing Issues – Megan Keller, Director, Community Policing, LBT PD full time community police officer for Barnegat Light
 - Phone scams attempt to catch people off guard especially old people report on line www.ftc.gov, IRS contacts you by mail first never by phone, LBI emergency contact and procedures call 911
 - For LBI non emergencies number 609-494-9322, Megan's direct line is 609-361-2097
 - Nixle is LBI's reverse 911 # for alerts sign up for calls, texts and emails call Megan she will help you set it up www.nixle.com
 - Get information our WBNJ radio station local RT 9 Barnegat Township offers free air time for all local departments to put out local information LBTPD Facebook
 - YouTube video on dangers and penalties of fireworks
 - Sandpaper offers a full page add on all summer safety



- July street smart safety campaign June 29 11:00 HC Sunset Park giving out t-shirts for positive law enforcement and to promote safety
 - Project medical drop at LBTPD, they have a box drop and a mobile box, call for pick up
 - Questions: Where can I pick up t-shirts at the police department? Call Megan Keller
 - If I dial 911 with a different area code will you know where I am? Yes, it will pin point your cell location
- Barnegat Light Borough Topics of Interest – The Honorable Kirk Larson, Mayor of Barnegat Light
- Planning board meeting on golf course between 5&6. 36-hole golf course with club house, \$2.0 million all BL related, will be approved at next board meeting. Concerns; lighting along 6th street, waterfalls make noise, lighting and parking. 36
 - Coast guard facility grass stage fence is staying up until grass grows then the fence will come down, wall is still up maybe paint a mural. Finance for open space money from East Windsor Township bond at 3%, \$165k for 20 years.
 - Dog Park Borough is in the process of buying an electronic system to control entrance into the dog park. Software for gate lock was \$4,000 and will be installed in fall. Costs: Residents free, non-residents \$30/year, renters \$10 per week. Little league field will remain on the outside of the dog park.
 - Walkways \$200k to build walkways from 21st to 13th street on the south end. At the north end where the dunes are building up we are using more of the walkways to allow the dunes fill in naturally. 11th street a really long walk to the beach. will you be extending the walkways? Roll up walkways will be used in sensitive areas. Skateboards and scooters are banned. Beach signs insure rules. Thanks public works for building the walkways.
 - \$0 municipal tax increase.
 - Name the park, Community Park of Barnegat Light.
 - Water meters not close enough to describe in detail. Cost to do all water meters \$3M if contracted. Thinking of hiring men to put in new water meters in houses. Will continue to discuss.
 - Pickle ball - paint the lines inside the tennis court and basketball courts to be able to play pickle ball.
 - Parking on Central Avenue – audience gave large applause. Now we can enforce. Reviewed the parking on the side street, 20 feet of front yard as driveway the rest is allowed parking. 20-foot rule, how does that apply to a duplex? The same rule applies.



- Beach access - explained trolley 20 min loop, off between 1-2 pm, work 10 am -5 pm, talked about extending the hours, extending the walkway on 9th. beach badge checkers double team them on weekends, need 3 more checkers for the season.
- Fireworks need patrols, in general need more enforcement.
- Docks and harbors - Kayak and canoes south of bay beach area have grown. 2006 ordinance to prohibit boats between April and December. Anchors have become an eyesore and hazard. Council passed an ordinance to register boat for a onetime \$10 fee. Will give you a ticket to put on your boat and you can hook up to township chain. Soft implementation this year register at town hall, beach badge hall, or dock.
- Thank borough for cleaning up the bay beach. At entrance there is a pile up of boats on right side of walkway. There is now a chain there, ordinance covers from 10h street south.
- Burglaries in BL - One house trashed by renters on private lane no word on burglaries. One person reported that workman stole things. Police have a record of workman who steal.

V. Other New Business

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19

Recorded and submitted by:

Name Kathy Mulleavey
Recording Secretary
Date 6/18/16