

BARNEGAT LIGHT TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
 Trustees Meeting Minutes
 October 13, 2018

<u>Attending:</u>		<u>Excused:</u>	
Barbara Truncellito		Bill Chernelich	
Rich Brodman		Kay McDonnell	
Tom Zesk		Patty Robinson	
Mary Ann Crutchlow		Jack Byrnes	
Philip Kahn		Virginia Simmons	
Betsy Aras			

I. President's Opening Comments

Barbara Truncellito called the meeting to order at 10:08 am. The Trustees approved the minutes from the September 15, 2018 Trustees meeting. Barbara discussed two key objectives for 2019:

- Frequent communications with our membership. We intend to issue monthly digital newsletters by email, which will provide current updates on Barnegat Light news and activities, Borough Council meetings, and other areas of interest. We also will continue to use our website and Facebook Group to provide information.
- Continue the strong relationship that we have built with the Borough Council and the Mayor.

II. Reports

o Treasurer's Report – Barbara Truncellito

Barbara gave the Treasurers Report in Bill's absence. The financials that Bill presented at the September 15 meeting were posted on the website. It was a good year and we have done a good job of keeping expenses down.

Barbara and Rich will meet with the Mayor to discuss a joint event with the Town next spring to celebrate the official opening of the Pavilion. This will be in addition to our Wine and Cheese event.

o Membership Report – Rich Brodman

Rich presented the latest 2018 membership report. We have 551 members in 2018, which is 14 ahead of last year's 537. 52 of our members are new members. We still have 77 prior year members who have not yet renewed, and we will be reaching out to them.

We currently have 852 email addresses, which allows us to provide updates and information to our members and interested parties. In our annual survey, this was one of the primary ways our members like to get information updates.

Rich will be taking responsibility for the maintenance and updating of the membership database, with the assistance of Ed Ebenbach and Kay McDonnell. We will look at efficient ways to send emails to members, including using Mail Chimp or Constant Contact.

- Open Space Committee – Barbara Truncellito

There has not been a meeting of the Open Space Committee, but this will be a topic at the upcoming meeting with the Mayor.

- JCTA (Joint Committee of Taxpayers Associations)

Phil Kahn will replace Andy as the BLTA representative on the JCTA. He will be backed up by Bill.

- Barnegat Light Borough Council Meeting – Barbara Truncellito

Barbara gave a report on the Borough Council meeting. There was a discussion about feeding wildlife, but consideration of an Ordinance to ban feeding and impose a fine was tabled.

Water meters have been installed at all commercial locations, and residences are intended to start next spring. The Town had originally contracted with Stafford to install residence water meters, but Stafford has withdrawn and the Town is now looking at other bids for the work. All residences have been instructed to find their water meter pit.

The Ocean County/LBI Library, and the Friends of the Library, gave a presentation about the World War I Memorial, and honored the eleven Barnegat Light residents who served in WWI (without any fatalities).

- BLTA Website and Facebook Group – Tom Zesk

Tom updated the group on recent changes to the website and Facebook Group, emphasizing our new Special Events section, which is updated each week with upcoming events for the next week. The posted articles are more focused on local items and events of interest to Barnegat Light property owners. There are less new articles each week, and they will remain on the home page longer. We will be looking at adding some new features, eg, a history of Barnegat Light series, and changing the cover photos on a seasonal basis.

The Facebook Group has 138 members, an increase of 30 over last year.

The BLTA will introduce a monthly digital newsletter, with information updates to our members and topical stories of interest.

- Spring Newsletter – Mary Ann Crutchlow

Mary Ann discussed the Spring newsletter and potential topics. The newsletter will be approximately 6 pages, and will include a letter from the President and articles written by Trustees. Suggested topics include Bike safety rules, water meters, monarch butterflies, the website, and the new miniature golf

course. All articles should be sent to Mary Ann by January 10 in order to allow us to issue the newsletter in February.

III. New Business – Items for Discussion

- Christmas Card

Barbara suggested that we send a Christmas/Holiday postcard from the Trustees to Barnegat Light property owners, and the Board agreed. The card would list all Trustees, and the goal would be to send the card by Thanksgiving.

- BLTA Tasks and Committees

The Board discussed the list of tasks and committees for the coming year. Each member would serve on one or more committees, with a returning Board member as Chair and others as participants. The committees would meet between each Trustee meeting and give a report on updates and objectives. After a discussion of some of the specifics, the Board approved the task list and the committees.

- Bicycle Safety Flyers – Rich Brodman

Rich updated the Board on the production of a bicycle safety flyer, which would be specific for Barnegat Light and would include a mention of the BLTA. This would be similar to the flyer used by the Long Beach Township, only smaller. The Mayor has agreed to distribute them with beach badges next spring. The LBT Police Dept. would produce the flyer.

- Spring Events – Rich Brodman

Rich discussed the Wine and Cheese event and Barbara noted that we were asked by the Mayor to do a joint event with the Borough on the official opening of the Pavilion, expected to be in June. The Board decided to do both events, since the Wine and Cheese event is for our members and future members, while the Pavilion opening would be for the Town. The Board agreed to have our Wine and Cheese event on Sunday, May 26, from 4:30-6:30 PM. The event would end before the Memorial Day Parade so attendees could go from the Wine and Cheese event to the Parade. We also will jointly sponsor the Pavilion opening in June with the Borough.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm. The next meeting is the BLTA Trustee meeting on November 3, 2018, at the home of Phil Kahn.

Recorded and submitted by:

Tom Zesk
Recording Secretary
October 31, 2018