

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

February 8th 2011, 6:30 P.M. EST

Guardian Elder Care Center • Sheatown PA.

Attendees:

Tom Kashatus	Francis Zaleski	Mary Margaret Kashatus	John Jarecki	Paul Jarecki
Palmira Miller	Linda Conner	Lucy Wazowicz (guest)	Caroline DeStefano	
Bill Hourigan	Mary Jo Evans	Carol Marcincavage	Heidi Selecky Jarecki	

President, Tom Kashatus called the meeting to order on the above date and time. At the time, it was noted that only nine members were present, including officers. As per the by-laws, ten members are needed for a forum. Bill Hourigan made a motion to continue the meeting with nine members, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor. Tom then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and proceeded with the order of business. It should also be noted that three additional members came to the meeting at a later time.

Secretary, Linda Conner read the minutes from the meeting of January 25th 2011. Mary Jo Evans made a motion that the minutes be accepted with minor corrections and placed on file; seconded by Palmira Miller, with all voting in favor.

Treasurer, Francis Zaleski read and presented the treasurers report. Linda Conner made a motion that the treasurers' report be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Carol Marcincavage, with all voting in favor. Francis also expressed concern that the \$300 check written to the Newport Township Little League for their participation in the Fall Festival, still had not been cashed some four months later. Tom stated that he would look into the matter.

Reading of Bills and Communications

1. A letter from the GNA Softball Booster Club was presented thanking the organization for their monetary gift. NTCO pledged \$200.00 for the purchase of championship rings for the 2009-2010 GNA Girls Softball Team. A photo of the girls receiving their rings was available for viewing.
2. A card from Cathy Goliash was presented thanking the organization for their sympathy card after the recent passing of her husband Tom. She also made a \$25.00 donation in his honor.

Committee Reports

1. Membership – Tom reported that there are currently 43 paid members and 3 paid Junior members. Francis Zaleski stated that he would sponsor his son Peter as a new member and made the motion to accept, which was seconded by Mary Margaret Kashatus, with all voting in favor. Tom reminded that the \$5.00 cost for 2011 membership became due January 1st and that the Membership Committee is still in need of a co-chair.
2. Fundraising – It is reminded that 2011 calendars and miniature collectibles are available for purchase.
3. Citizenship – Tom stated that chairperson, Heidi Jarecki has the criteria for this new committee available and expressed his eagerness to begin nominating candidates.
4. New Business Committee – Tom stated that the township commissioners are interested in participating in a Grand Opening of the new, convenience store at 22 West Main Street in Glen Lyon.
5. Hospitality – A sympathy card was sent to Marie Cardone whose mother, Mrs. Augustine recently passed away at the age of 101 years.
6. Editorial – The editorial board will hold a meeting on Tuesday, February 15th at 6:30pm. All board members are asked to attend.

Unfinished Business

1. Tom is waiting on the Board of Directors for the terms of office, the 2011 budget and discussion on the 5-point plan. These items should be addressed prior to the Annual Meeting. Heidi stated that the board is working on these items.
2. Tom stated that he would keep the installation of the two picnic tables and bench at Coal Street Park in Glen Lyon on the agenda until completion. Likewise, for other items that have not been completed or decided upon such as the CPR certification course, use of wireless technology, ordering of new tee and sweatshirts, purchase of a printer for the organization, presentation on Olga Trotsky, monetary pledge towards demolition costs to be incurred at 42-44 Coal Street, etc.
3. Palmira gave a brief update on the Great American Clean-Up for 2011. The dates that have been tentatively scheduled are as follows: April 18th thru 21st Big Jump Drop-Off, April 25th thru 29th Clean-Up of illegal dump sites with the Work Release Program and April 30th Road Clean-Up with township volunteers. Some possible sites of illegal dumping were discussed such as Old Burma / Biscontini Road. Palmira suggested the purchase of duffle bags to commemorate the event rather than tee shirts. Linda Conner agreed and made a motion to approve an amount of up to \$125.00; seconded by Caroline DeStefano, with all voting in favor.
4. The VISION sponsored "sheltering the homeless program" at Saint Adalbert's church in Glen Lyon will begin on February 20th. As part of the program, NTCO will prepare and serve meal on Saturday, February 26th. Tom asked that volunteers come to the church hall at 1:00pm. Mary Margaret Kashatus will purchase supplies for the event and asked for a budget of \$300.00. Palmira made a motion to accept; seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor.

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New Business

1. In light of Catholic Social Services renegeing on their pledge to contribute towards municipal services for the new apartment at the former Saint Stanislaus Orphanage site, Tom has done some research into payments made in lieu of taxes by 501(c)3's property owners in the township. He found that tax-free entities like the Rock Street Apartments and Pollack Apartments pay very little towards municipal services. He would like to get member feedback on this.
2. Paul and Heidi Jarecki attended the Newport Township Recreation Board meeting and reported that Murph Fletcher is proposing another sledding event to be held on Sunday, February 20th between 12 and 3pm at the recreation park in Wanamie. Palmira stated that she was aware of this and had made arrangements for NTCO to contribute paper cups and plates.
3. Mike Yalsh Jr. would like to present his senior project on "Mining in Newport Township" to the organization. There was some discussion on the possibility of inviting the public to the event. A location, media requirements, and refreshments were discussed. Heidi stated that she would speak with Mike about his feelings on the matter.

Good of the Organization

1. John Jarecki was concerned that his article on the budget for Newport Township did not appear in the winter newsletter. Editor, Bill Hourigan stated that due to space constraints, John's article and one by Harold DeStefano on wireless technology would appear in the spring newsletter.
2. John Jarecki noted Vito Deluca will announce his candidacy for county judge at a brunch to be held 10:00am, Saturday, February 19th at the Alden Manor. The public is invited to attend.
3. Kudos to Commissioner John Zyla for commenting during the recent Newport Township Commissioner's meeting, that a member of the Newport Township Community Organization should consider joining the Home Rule Charter Transition Board because NTCO members are "good watchdogs" for the township.
4. Tom has made a commitment to always ask for a complete report and cost analysis whenever a new project involves income and expense.
5. As always, remember to support the businesses that advertise in our newsletter.

Adjournment

Francis Zaleski made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Caroline DeStefano, with all voting in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner