

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

March 22nd 2011, 6:30 P.M. EST

Guardian Elder Care Center • Sheatown PA.

Attendees:

Tom Kashatus	Linda Conner	James Caley	Faye Maloney
Palmira Miller	Stephen Phillips	Heidi Selecky Jarecki	Steve Masakowski
Bill Hourigan	Carolyn Phillips	John Jarecki	Mary Margaret Kashatus
Francis Zaleski	Mary Jo Evans	Joe Maloney	Lucy Wazowicz

I. *President*, Tom Kashatus called the meeting to order on the above date and time, led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and proceeded with the order of business.

II. *Secretary*, Linda Conner read the minutes from the previous meeting of March 8th 2011 that had been taken by Assistant Secretary John Jarecki. Faye Maloney made a motion that the minutes with minor corrections be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor.

III. *Treasurer*, Francis Zaleski read and presented the treasurers report. There was a brief discussion on the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service for 501©3 organizations. Bill Hourigan made a motion that the report be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Faye Maloney, with all voting in favor.

IV. *Reading of the Bills & Communication*

- a) It was announced that the South Valley Chamber of Commerce would be holding a Spring Flea Market on Saturday, April 9th 2011 in Nanticoke.
- b) It was announced that the Catholic Social Services would be holding an Open House at the Saint Stanislaus' Apartments on Wednesday, April 6th 2011 at 6:30pm.
- c) A letter from the Nanticoke Historical Society was read presenting "A Walk Around Nanticoke" on Thursday, March 31st 2011 at 7pm.
- d) A letter from Lowe's Home Improvement Center was read inviting NTCO to participate in the Earth Day Event they will be hosting on Saturday, April 23rd 2011 from 10am to 3pm. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the organization would participate. Anyone interested in volunteering his or her time should see Palmira Miller.
- e) A communication from Leigh Bonczewski of Representative Gerald Mullery's office was read regarding the Guardian Care Volunteer Dinner to be held at the Alden Manor on Thursday, April 14th 2011 at 5:30pm. Tom Kashatus stated that he plans on attending the event.
- f) It was announced that a "Meet & Greet" continental breakfast is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 15th 2011 at 8am in the Educational Conference Center of Luzerne County Community College. NTCO will be co-hosting the event with the South Valley Chamber of Commerce as an opportunity for the general public to meet the judicial candidates for Luzerne County. Though approval is pending on the event, Carolyn Phillips made a motion for NTCO to contribute a monetary amount not to exceed \$150.00 to cover costs; seconded by Joe Maloney. With the exception of Steve Phillips who, as a member of SVCC, abstained from voting, all voted in favor.
- g) A communication from the Non-Profit & Community Assistance Center (NCAC) was read announcing the 2011 Community Awards program to be held Thursday, June 9th 2011 beginning at 4:30pm at a location yet to be decided. Palmira Miller stated that she submitted an award application on behalf of the organization.
- h) An invoice from KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL PRODUCTS in the amount of \$112.02 was presented for payment by Palmira Miller for the purchase of backpacks that will be given to participants of the Great American Clean Up. The purchase amount was approved at a previous meeting.

V. *Reports of Committees*

- a) Membership – Tom Kashatus reports 2011 membership stands at 103 members and 3 junior members.
- b) Recycling – Tom Kashatus stated that he would need some assistance with lifting and moving items on Wednesday, March 23rd. Anyone interested should see Tom after the meeting. Heidi Jarecki made Tom aware of some items to be recycled located in the basement of Saint Adalbert's Church.
- c) New Businesses – A Grand Opening was held on March 10th 2011 at the MJ Food Mart in Glen Lyon. The upcoming newsletter will feature an article on the event.
- d) Hospitality – Carolyn Phillips was sent a card in sympathy for the passing of her aunt and Linda Conner was sent a card wishing her quick recovery from her illness. Both expressed their appreciation at the meeting.
- e) Fundraising – Heidi Jarecki announced that, after a period of slow activity, DVD sales have increased.
- f) Great American Clean Up – Palmira Miller confirmed that she had one dumpster scheduled for the Big Junk Drop Off. However, in order to hold the event, another 30 yard dumpster would be needed. The illegal dumpsite clean up will be held April 25th thru 29th. Pennsylvania Environmental Council will coordinate the event. The Community Pride event will be held Saturday, April 30th with the clean up of main roads in the township. Palmira will provide an update on the events at the next meeting.

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V. Reports of Committees continued

- g) Citizenship – Heidi Jarecki provided the revised criteria for this committee. After some discussion, the following minor clarifications were decided upon; Revise to disqualify current officers and directors from being nominated and clarify that the total cost of the award is not to exceed \$100.00 and would include a certificate of merit, an item of Newport Township memorabilia and a complimentary dinner for the recipient and one guest. Joe Maloney made a motion to accept the criteria with revisions; seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor. Heidi will revise and present the formal criteria at the next meeting. While President Tom Kashatus has some suggestions for nominations, he said that he would defer to committee chairwoman, Heidi Selecky Jarecki on the final selection.

VI. Unfinished Old Business (“Unfinished” items with new discussion only)

- a) A chairperson is still needed for the 2011 Fall Festival. Steve Masakowski made a motion that the event be held on Sunday, October 9th 2011; seconded by Francis Zaleski. The event date passed with 8 voting in favor of, 6 voting against and two (Tom Kashatus and Faye Maloney) abstaining from the vote.
- b) Though on the agenda, there was no further discussion on the request from the Newport Township Little League to renew our sign at the playing field in Wanamie.
- c) There was further discussion on the contribution of \$2,500 from NTCO towards “soft costs” incurred by the Newport Township Authority in the demolition of 42-44 Coal Street Glen Lyon. It was decided that should the entire amount not be used, NTCO would keep whatever monies remained to be used towards future projects, if so decided.
- d) After brief discussion, it was decided that NTCO would support Scott Neff should he decide to pursue the opportunity with “EXTREME MAKEOVER”.

VII. New Business

- a) Tom Kashatus attended a seminar on March 19th held by the Newport Township Emergency Management Assoc. with regards to how an emergency at the Salem Township nuclear facility would be handled. Tom will provide information from the seminar in an article to be featured in the upcoming newsletter.
- b) It was announced that Cub Scout Pack #376 (Italian Club) has disbanded. It was not known if this was because of poor participation.
- c) NTCO President Tom Kashatus appointed Mary Margaret Kashatus to the Citizenship Committee, which she graciously accepted.
- d) Though on the agenda, there was no discussion on the link up with the Newport Township web site.

VIII. Good of the Organization

- a) It was announced that the Shickshinny Sesquicentennial Celebration would begin 7:00pm on Saturday, April 2nd at the community fire hall.
- b) As editor, Bill Hourigan stated that the spring newsletter was in need of articles. Anyone interested in submitting an article should do so as soon as possible.
- c) President Tom Kashatus vows that he will always ask for a complete report and cost analysis for projects involving income and expense.
- d) As always, remember to support the businesses that advertise in our newsletter.

IX. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner