

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

January 10th 2012, 6:30 P.M. EST

Guardian Elder Care Center • Sheatown PA.

Attendees:

Palmira Gregory Miller	Linda Conner	Faye Maloney	Paul Jarecki	Karen Rejician
Tom Kashatus	Francis Zaleski	Joe Maloney	Heidi Jarecki	Mary Margaret Kashatus
Bill Hourigan	Mary Jo Evans	Sharon Julius	John Jarecki	Pat Cannon
				Alice Dymond (guest)

I. *President*, Palmira Gregory Miller 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.

I. *Secretary*, Linda Conner read the minutes from the meeting of December 13th 2011. Mary Jo Evans made a motion that the minutes with noted corrections be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Sharon Julius, with all voting in favor.

III. *Treasurer* Francis Zaleski presented the treasurers report for January 10th 2012. Tom Kashatus asked that it be noted that \$2,000.00 is committed to the Newport Township Authority for “soft costs” in the demolition of certain Glen Lyon properties. Treasurer Francis Zaleski stated that a column for demolition costs would be created within the treasurer’s report showing the reserved monies. Bill Hourigan made a motion that the treasurers report be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Karen Rejician, with all voting in favor.

IV. *Reading of the Bills & Communications*

- a) A membership renewal was received from the *South Valley Chamber of Commerce*. Tom Kashatus made a motion to pay \$50.00 for NTCO membership to cover the period of March 1st 2012 thru February 28th 2013; seconded by Joe Maloney, with all voting in favor.
- b) An invoice from the *Old Newport Decal & Screen Printing Shop* in the amount of \$73.00 for the purchase of tee and sweat shirts was presented for payment. Heidi Jarecki made a motion to pay the amount in full, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor. These items are for stock.
- c) A letter was received from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council thanking NTCO for the lunch that was prepared for volunteers who participated in the clean up of the illegal dumpsite around old Weinick Park in Glen Lyon on November 14th 2011. Program Coordinator, Palmira Gregory Miller especially expressed appreciated to Carolyn Phillips, who prepared and delivered lunch.
- d) An email communication was received from John Hambrose of Waste Management Inc. offering free television and computer recycling. Items may be dropped off at Apex Waste Services in the Keystone Industrial Park in Dunmore. Weekday hours are 8am to 4pm; Saturdays 7am to 9am.
- e) A donation in the amount of \$240.00 was received from former township residents, Larry & Diane Olenginski.

V. *Reports of Committees*

- a) Membership – Sharon Julius sponsored new member, Alice Dymond. Tom Kashatus made a motion to accept Alice as a new member; seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor. There was no report on membership renewals for 2012.
- b) Recycling – Tom Kashatus reported that he was approached by the Tarnowski family to clean out the Glen Lyon residence of the late Tad & Sophie Tarnowski. This goes beyond the realm of the NTCO recycling program and there was some discussion on whether or not NTCO should get involved in projects of this size. However, Tom stated that as long as there was interest by volunteers, he would be willing. Both Bill Hourigan and Francis Zaleski offered their assistance. The team will meet at the home 9am on Thursday, January 12th. Volunteers are asked to contact Francis.
- c) New Business – Tom Kashatus has volunteered to chair the new business committee in replacement of Mary Margaret Kashatus, who recently stepped down from the position.
- d) Summer Fun Program – Program complete
- e) Hospitality/Sunshine – Mary Margaret Kashatus reported that a card was sent the family of the late John Farrell expressing condolences for his recent passing. A card was also sent to John Jarecki and the former Carol Marcincavage to congratulate them on their recent marriage.
- f) Newsletter Editorial & Distribution – The editors, Paul & Heidi Jarecki announced that the Winter Newsletter was complete and at the printers. At a cost of \$90.00 more, a coated paper will be used for better quality and picture resolution. 1,100 copies will be distributed for delivery beginning Friday, January 13th.
- g) Fundraising – Heidi Jarecki reported that sales remained swift. She also noted that the embroidered, knit hats ordered from *Old Newport Decal & Screen Printing Shop* were not ready.
- h) Great American Clean Up & others – Program Coordinator, Palmira Gregory Miller announced that she registered NTCO for the “Great American Clean Up” by the *KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL Foundation*. The event will begin on Saturday, April 21st with the community clean up of the main roadways in the township. She reported that since the clean up of the illegal dumpsite of old Weinick Park, the entrance to the area has been blocked and that she would like to see the entrance to Pipe Road in Glen Lyon similarly blocked. Palmira also reported that there are plans to gate the access road to the water tower in Wanamie and to block the Newport Cemetery road where it splits to allow access to land owned by Earth Conservancy Inc.

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V. Reports of Committees continued

- i) Eight Point Plan – No Report
- j) Nominating Committee – Elections complete.
- k) Citizenship Committee – President Palmira Gregory Miller thanked members of the committee for their efforts with the award presentation during the Year-End dinner meeting.
- l) Publicity – John Jarecki reported that he wrote a small piece on the recent Christmas concert and Citizenship Award presented to Mrs. Joseph (Phoebe) Hillian to be featured in both local newspapers. Tom Kashatus asked that a public notice be advertised for the collection of unwanted, Christmas lights for recycling.
- m) Recreation – Paul & Heidi Jarecki reported that they attended the meeting of the Newport Township Recreation Board earlier in the evening of January 10th. Items discussed ranged from the scheduling of sporting events to the replacement of the gate at the Wanamie Recreation Park. It was reported that some older kids were hassling the younger children on the basketball court at Coal Street Park in Glen Lyon.

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

- a) Maintenance remains to be done on the memorial tree at the Wanamie recreation park. A “sprucing up” of the area surrounding the tree should be performed in the spring.
- b) The West Kirmar Parkway remains to be cleaned of litter as part of our “*Adopt-a-Highway*” obligation. Palmira hopes to schedule something in February, weather permitting, and will send a general email to members announcing the date.
- c) Volunteers are needed Friday, February 3rd to assist with the meal being provided by NTCO for the *Saint Theresa Haven* program that shelters individuals that are “down on their luck”.

VII. New Business

- a) The annual meeting of the Board of Directors should be scheduled for February or March 2012. Heidi Jarecki stated that she would speak to the members of the board on choosing a date.
- b) Vice President Tom Kashatus recently attended a meeting with officials from Luzerne County Community College looking to organize area clean ups involving students. Tom was asked to provide input on recycling.
- c) A volunteer is needed to chair the junior membership committee. Palmira would like to see this group more involved and is looking for someone to put events together.
- d) Tom Kashatus brought a gift certificate for use of a 14’ x 48’ digital bulletin board from *LAMAR Advertising*. What is publicized on the board is at the discretion of NTCO. Advertisements run for about 2 weeks.
- e) Tom Kashatus announced that Dr. William Kashatus, Professor of History at Luzerne County Commuting College, has plans to write a book regarding the history of mining in Newport Township with proceeds to go to the Newport Township Community Organization.
- f) Heidi Jarecki has suggested that NTCO host a “good, old-fashioned” Fourth of July Celebration in conjunction with other township groups such as the Fire Department, Little League and Woman’s Activity group. This idea will be discussed more in the future.
- g) Bill Hourigan suggested the *Lion’s Den* in Glen Lyon as a location to showcase photos of Newport Township’s past. He stated that he would approach the owners at his next opportunity.

VIII. For the Good of the Organization

- a) Palmira Gregory Miller thanked members who attended her first meeting as president. She has vowed to continue the policy of previous president, Tom Kashatus, to always ask for a complete report and cost analysis for projects involving income and expense.
- b) Keep in mind that new member sponsorship, fundraising efforts and support of the businesses that advertise in our newsletter is the obligation of all members.
- c) Remember that whenever attending an event as a NTCO member to promote your organization with pride.

IX. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner