

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

January 24th 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	James Caley	Pat Cannon
			Alice Dymond	Lori Hulse (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.

Vice President, Tom Kashatus introduced guest attendee, Lori Hulse.

II. *Secretary*, Linda Conner read the minutes from the meeting of January 10th 2012. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the minutes with noted corrections be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Pat Cannon, with all voting in favor.

III. *Treasurer* Francis Zaleski presented the treasurers report for January 24th 2012. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the treasurers report be accepted as read and placed on file; seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor.

IV. *Reading of the Bills & Communications*

- a) An email from *DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation* was read, announcing the “Green & Sustainable Webinar” to be held online, February 10th 2012 at 10am. Learn about the programs that were created to get people in the community outdoors. The event web address is <https://copa.webex.com>
- b) An out-of-pocket expense \$61.60 was presented for payment by Francis Zaleski for the purchase of postage stamps. Tom Kashatus made a motion to reimburse the amount in full, seconded by Faye Maloney, with all voting in favor.
- c) A donation in the amount of \$100.00 was received from Mr. & Mrs. Francis Zaleski to be used towards the meal NTCO will be providing to participants in the Saint Theresa Haven program (formerly VISION) at Saint Adalbert’s church on Friday, February 2nd 2012. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the \$300.00 allowance set aside for this event be given to him upfront rather than turning in the receipts for payment afterwards; seconded by Mary Jo Evans, all voted in favor with the exception of James Caley, who voted no, and Mary Margaret Kashatus and Francis Zaleski, who abstained from voting.
- d) It was announced that the *South Valley Chamber of Commerce* has some new leadership. Board member, Chris Carey is defining several major projects for the revitalization of the Nanticoke area. He has asked for a 2nd and 3rd vice president position in addition to the existing 1st vice president and that all three individuals will oversee the future projects.
- e) It was announced that *Non-Profit & Community Assistance Center* (NCAC) has offered guidance through their online resources for tax-exempt organizations. The rule that cautions the “leaders of 501©3 organizations from making partisan comments in official organization publications or at official functions” was discussed. For the complete set of rules and regulations, logon to www.StayExpemt.irs.gov

V. *Reports of Committees*

- a) Membership – Linda Conner sponsored new member, Lori Hulse. Joe Maloney made a motion to accept the new member; seconded by Karen Rejician, with all voting in favor. Heidi Selecky sponsored new members, Nicholas & Anna Mae Hudack. Linda Conner made a motion to accept the new members; seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor. Heidi Selecky sponsored new member, Anne Marie Selecky. Mary Jo Evans made a motion to accept the new member; seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor. It was reported that the number of Junior members now stands at eight (8) as two members have reached the age of 18 years and no longer qualify as “junior”. There was no report on membership renewals for 2012.
- b) Recycling – Tom Kashatus reported that the project of cleaning out the shop of the late Nello Roke continues. For those interested in volunteering some time to the project, Tom is usually at the East Main Street site 10am on Fridays.
- c) New Business – No Report
- d) Summer Fun Program – Program complete
- e) Hospitality/Sunshine – Mary Margaret Kashatus reported that Al Kanyuck, Dorothy Stegura and Jenny Blasi have all been sent cards wishing them a speedy return to good health. Tom Kashatus mentioned that Mrs. Chester (Geraldine) Smocharski is currently a resident of the Guardian Care Center and might enjoy receiving a card wishing her well.
- f) Newsletter – Joe Maloney reported that of the 34 ads in the Fall Newsletter (Issue #27), 7 remain unpaid. He is currently working on the ads for the Winter Newsletter and will present his report when final. Editors, Paul & Heidi Jarecki reported that the responses towards the glossy paper used for the Winter Newsletter have all been positive. Former editor, Bill Hourigan suggested that at least 4 bids be sought yearly for the printing needs of the organization. He added that quality should always be considered over price.
- g) Fundraising – No Report

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V. *Reports of Committees continued*

- h) Great American Clean Up & others – Program Coordinator, Palmira Gregory Miller reported that Pennsylvania Environmental Council has plans to post “No Littering” signs in the areas that were cleaned up by the agency as part of their campaign against illegal dumpsites. There was some discussion on whether NTCO should also have signs posted. Also discussed was the possibility of surveillance in the areas known as dumping grounds. It was suggested that quotations of price for surveillance be actively pursued.
- i) Eight Point Plan – No Report
- j) Nominating Committee – Elections complete
- k) Citizenship Committee – No Report
- l) Publicity – No Report
- m) Recreation – The suggestion of Heidi (Selecky) Jarecki for an “old fashioned” Fourth of July celebration in the township was briefly discussed though it would be ultimately up to the Newport Township Recreation Board to act upon. It was reported that the hoops for the basketball court at Coal Street Park in Glen Lyon have been removed, which may have been done in response to the reported hassling of children by older kids on the court as means of prevention.

VI. *Unfinished Old Business*

- a) 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.
- b) Coordinator, Mary Margaret Kashatus briefly discussed plans for the meal to be served as part of the *Saint Theresa Haven program*. A show of hands was asked among members who planned on volunteering their assistance for the event. Mary Margaret stated that she would be at Saint Adalbert’s church at 2pm Friday, February 2nd to begin preparations. Volunteers should report to the church basement.
- c) It was mentioned that as Michael Yalsh Jr. has gone away to college, his presentation on “Mining in Newport Twp.” should be removed from the list of unfinished business.

VII. *New Business*

- a) There was a brief discussion on whether NTCO would again donate \$500.00 to the Newport/Nanticoke Little League for the assistance with the equipment needs of underprivileged children who wished to play ball. This matter has been tabled for the time being.
- b) It was reported that members of the Newport Township Fire Department are planning their annual Memorial Day Weekend bazaar. Heidi Jarecki asked if NTCO should offer to partner the event with the fire company. Tom Kashatus stated that as members of the association, he and/or Bill Hourigan would discuss the matter with event organizers during their next meeting.
- c) Tom Kashatus presented a picture of former township resident, Joe Champi, who has been named assistant coach to the “*Atlanta Dream*”, a team for the *Woman’s National Basketball Association*. There was discussion on a group event to attend a game at Madison Square Garden. An article for the newsletter is planned.

VIII. *For the Good of the Organization*

- a) For new and old members alike, Palmira reminded that according to the NTCO Articles of Incorporation, the purposes for which the community organization has been formed are: (a) to revitalize and beautify the township; (b) to promote charitable, civic and social pursuits; (c) to support and cooperation with all the fraternal charitable, religious, patriotic and civic enterprises of the community of Newport Township; and (d) to protect the health and safety of its citizens.
- b) Palmira will continue the policy of always asking for a complete report and cost analysis for projects involving income and expense.
- c) 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.
- d) 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 8:20pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner