

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

January 8th 2013, 6:30 P.M. EST

Guardian Elder Care Center • Sheatown PA.

Attendees:

Palmira Gregory Miller	Francis Zaleski	Paul Jarecki	Joe Maloney	Debbie Prokopf
Tom Kashatus	Linda Conner	Heidi Jarecki	Faye Maloney	Chris Carey
Bill Hourigan	Mary Jo Evans	John Jarecki	Alice Dymond	Joe Carey
			Sharon Julius	Ron Davis (guest)

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

II. Secretary, Linda Conner read the minutes from the previous meeting of November 27th 2012. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the minutes with noted corrections be accepted as read and placed on file, seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor.

III. Treasurer, Francis Zaleski presented the treasurers report for January 8th 2013. 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. Francis provided a copy of the Cash Flow Report for 2012 that he will present to the Board of Directors at the upcoming meeting.

IV. Reading of the Bills & Communications

- a) Francis Zaleski had an "out of pocket" expense of \$100.00 for the deposit required by Maps' Restaurant to reserve the year-end dinner meeting. Tom Kashatus made a motion to reimburse Francis for the expense, seconded by Faye Maloney, with all voting in favor.
- b) A donation was received from Lawrence & Diane Oleginski in the amount of \$300.00.
- c) A copy of "A Toms River Christmas" letter was received from the *Saint Faustina Grove Committee* and *Newport Consolidated Fire Department* regarding their plan to provide a meal and assistance to those in Tom's River, New Jersey who have been affected by *Hurricane Sandy*. The event occurred on Saturday, December 22nd 2012. Tom Kashatus provided photographs and a brief summary of the trip.
- d) A "Happy Holidays" email was received from the *Nonprofit & Community Assistance Center (NCAC)*.
- e) A "Happy New Year" email was received from *Earth Conservancy*.
- f) A letter was received from *Pennsylvania Environmental Council* in appreciation of the use of equipment and lunch that was provided to volunteers participating in the clean-up events of October 13th and November 17th 2012 in Newport Township.
- g) A letter was sent to the *Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection* to support the grant application submitted by the *Pennsylvania Environmental Council* to continue with the "Community Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program".
- h) Heidi Jarecki provided a copy of the letter from Stan Domzalski requesting a 2013 calendar and the Christmas card from Eileen & Tucker Birk who praised the newsletter.
- i) A letter was received from *Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC)* to renew membership at a cost of \$50.00 and Palmira made a request to support their quest to become a "*Keep America Beautiful*" (*KAB*) affiliate, which will cost *PEC* \$500.00. Tom Kashatus made a motion to renew membership with *PEC* at a cost of \$50.00, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor. Linda Conner made a motion that the organization support *PEC* in becoming a *KAB* affiliate and offset the cost of affiliation by donating \$250.00, seconded by Heidi Jarecki, with all voting in favor.
- j) An email was received from the office of Representative Ed Pashinski of the *121st Legislative District* asking for support in his quest to stop Governor Corbett from privatizing the *Pennsylvania Lottery*.
- k) A verbal communication was received from the *Newport Township Youth Basketball Program* asking for support of the March tournament. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the organization place an advertisement in the basketball program at a cost of \$50.00, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor. (Exception; Francis Zaleski abstained from voting.)
- l) A verbal communication was received from Chrissie Blank of the *Cub Scouts #430* announcing that a soup sale will be held in February. The date is pending.

V. Reports of Committees

- a) Membership – Tom Kashatus reported that there were 131 members for 2012. Membership renewal for 2013 is now due.
- b) Fundraising – Heidi Jarecki reported that she and Paul are working on the design of "*Chopacks' Grove*" in Lee, the planned 5th miniature of Newport Township historic site commemorative memorabilia.
- c) Newsletter Editors – Paul and Heidi Jarecki reported that the winter newsletter is at the printers and will be ready for distribution on Friday, January 11th 2013.
- d) Newsletter Committee – Palmira has appointed Mary Jo Evans as a member of the newsletter committee. A meeting of the committee will be held 7:00pm, Tuesday, January 15th 2013 at the home of Paul & Heidi Jarecki.
- e) Newsletter Advertisements – Joe Maloney gave a brief update of the advertisement account status as he would not be able to attend the committee meeting because of work.

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V. *Reports of Committees continued*

- f) Recreation Board Meeting – Paul & Heidi reported that the board met earlier in the evening of January 8th with three members and the Parks & Recreation commissioner present. New member, Paul Pierson was appointed secretary. Topics of discussion were the basketball court in Wanamie that is cracking despite resealing and the Bicycle Safety Day that will be held again this year. Heidi suggested that the board contact NTCO regarding the swing set for the Alden playground.
- g) Hospitality/Sunshine – Mary Margaret Kashatus reported via email that a card was sent to Gerald Mullery family in sympathy of the recent passing of Mr. Mullery's mother. In accordance with NTCO policy, Tom Kashatus made a motion to donate \$25.00 to the Mill Memorial Library in memory of Marie Morruci, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor.
- h) Recycling – Tom Kashatus reported that assistance is needed with the delivery of donated items to *AGAPE*. Volunteers are asked to meet at the home of the late Nello & Evelyn Roke at 9am on Friday.
- i) Publicity – John Jarecki reported that an article has been written regarding the NTCO Yearend & Awards Dinner that will be featured in both local newspapers.
- j) Great American Cleanup – Palmira provided a copy of the 2011-2012 statistics for Newport Township as part of the Community Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program sponsored by *Pennsylvania American Council*.
- k) New Township Business Committee – Tom Kashatus reported that a new Antique & Collectibles Shop has opened on East Main Street in Glen Lyon. A Grand Opening is planned.
- l) Nominating Committee – It was reported that some terms have concluded on the Board of Directors. A meeting of the board is scheduled for 6:30pm, Tuesday, January 22nd 2013 with the regular meeting to follow. All board members are asked to attend.

VI. *Unfinished Old Business*

- a) There was discussion on ways to improve the yearend dinner meeting. Tom would like to make the opportunity available for all organizations of Newport Township to nominate a candidate for the Citizenship Award by a more personal approach in communication.
- b) Heidi Jarecki reminded that *The Luzerne County Historical Society* is featuring an exhibit celebrating the 65th anniversary of the film version of “*The Miracle of the Bells*”. The exhibit will run through March 15th 2013.

VII. *New Business*

- a) Tom Kashatus introduced guest attendee, Ron Davis, an administrator with *Wilkes University* and owner of *RJ Financial Services*. Ron spoke regarding the recycling program at the university and other local, recycling initiatives. The success of the NTCO recycling program was discussed and how all can benefit from working together.
- b) Chris Carey has proposed to design a new website for NTCO and assist with its' upkeep. Chris discussed what services he would provide and at what cost. Should the organization be interested, a formal proposal can be submitted for review. Chris also discussed how he could make the improvements that Tom spoke of to the NTCO logo, particularly the braiding around the emblem.
- c) It was reported that Jeremy Blank has been appointed chief of the *Newport Township Police Department*.
- d) Tom Kashatus provided a brief summary of a “Dissolution Clause”, which outlines how remaining funds are handled upon the folding of a 501©3 organization. This clause is mandatory and will need to be added to the NTCO bylaws.

VIII. *For the Good of the Organization*

- a) Maintenance of memorial tree at the Wanamie Recreation Park is the responsibility of all members.
- b) The president of the organization will always ask for a complete report and cost analysis for projects involving income and expense as a measure of accountability.
- c) Members of the organization should attend public meeting throughout the township whenever possible.
- d) New membership, fundraising, etc. are the responsibility of each and every member.
- e) Whenever attending an event as an NTCO member, promote the organization with pride.
- f) As always, remember to support the businesses that advertise in the NTCO newsletter.

IX. *Adjournment*

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner