

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

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

Guardian Elder Care Center • Sheatown, PA.

Attendees:

Palmira Gregory Miller	Francis Zaleski	Joe Maloney	Mary Jo Evans	Steve Dymond
Bill Hourigan	Linda Conner	Faye Maloney	Paul Jarecki	Lorrie Materewicz (guest)
Tom Kashatus	John Jarecki	Debbie Prokop	Heidi Jarecki	

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. In the absence of a quorum, Faye Maloney made a motion to continue the meeting with nine members present and one guest, seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor. The quorum was later met with the arrival of four more members.

II. Secretary, Linda Conner read the minutes from the previous meeting of September 24th 2013. Joe Maloney made a motion that the minutes with noted corrections be accepted as read and placed on file, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor.

III. Treasurer, Francis Zaleski presented the treasurers' report for September 24th 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. Palmira asked that the treasurer, when compiling the year-end report, provide a more detailed description of disbursements; specifically citing the reason for the expense.

Palmira Miller introduced guest attendee, Lorrie Materewicz, President of the *American Legion Auxiliary (Post 539)*. The auxiliary is sponsoring a clothing drive for the veterans at the Wilkes-Barre VA Hospital. The clothing must be new and Lorrie stated that she would be willing to pick up the items. Monetary donations are also welcome. Linda Conner made a motion for the organization to contribute \$250.00, seconded by Heidi Jarecki, with all voting in favor. Anyone interested in making a donation to this worthy cause can contact the post at (570)736-3051.

IV. Reading of the Bills & Communications

- An email was received from Ron Davis announcing a networking event that is planned for Friday, October 18th 2013 at the Coal Street Skating Rink in Wilkes-Barre. As Group Benefits Specialist, Ron was inviting civic organizations out to meet and exchange business cards. For more detailed information, please visit the following website: <http://www.southvalleychamber.com/events/businesscard-card-exchange-october/>
- Heidi Jarecki submitted an invoice in the amount of \$48.00 from *Old Newport Decal* for screening work. Tom Kashatus made a motion to pay in the invoice in full, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor.

V. Reports of Committees

- Membership – Tom Kashatus reported that there are currently 202 members.
- Fundraising – Heidi Jarecki gave a brief report on the current sale status of NTCO memorabilia items.
- Newsletter (Editors, Advertisements & Distribution) – Editors Paul & Heidi Jarecki reported that the fall 2013 edition of the newsletter is ready for distribution and expressed their appreciation to everyone who contributed articles and photos. They also provided an early outline for the winter 2013 newsletter. Tom Kashatus reported that 100 extra copies of the newsletter were printed by *Blasi Printing Company* at no charge. Tom made a motion to pre-approve for immediate payment the invoice(s) that will be received from *Blasi Printing Company* for the printing of the newsletter and calendars, seconded by Faye Maloney, with all voting in favor. Joe Maloney provided an update on advertisement sales. Joe made a motion to give Barbara's Custom Floral an ad in issue #34 of the newsletter at no charge, seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor.
- Publicity – John Jarecki provided a brief report of recent publicity items that were sent to the newspapers and updated on the NTCO website.
- Newport Township Recreation Board – Heidi Jarecki reported that again no meeting was held.
- Recycling – Tom Kashatus gave a brief report on the *Luzerne County Annual Tire Recycling program* of Saturday, October 5th 2013 in Butler Township. He was currently collecting tires for the event that would be held Saturday, October 12th 2013 in Hanover Township.
- Butterfly Garden – Debbie Prokop gave a brief report to the progress of the butterfly garden intended for the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon.
- NTCO Citizenship Award – Palmira asked that a date be scheduled for the award presentation that coincides with the NTCO end-of-year dinner meeting. Nominations for the award were discussed as were potential venues for the event.

VI. Unfinished Old Business

- The request made by the *Newport Township Police Department* for monetary assistance with the purchase of body cameras was again discussed. Tom Kashatus made a motion to purchase one camera at a cost not to exceed \$350.00, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor. At that time, Tom let it be known that he feels the generosity of the organization often goes unappreciated. For the purpose of community awareness, NTCO asks that a brief article be written by the petitioner in return for a contribution. Yet, what seems a small request is many times unheeded.
- The *Huber Breaker Preservation Society* will show the film, "Tales of the Mollie Maguires" at the Hanover Area High School auditorium, on Friday, November 22nd 2013 at 7pm. As NTCO has agreed to assist with this endeavor, tickets are currently available to buy or be sold at a cost of \$5.00 each. Anyone interested is asked to contact Palmira.

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VI. *Unfinished Old Business continued*

- c) Palmira reported that a letter was received from the state in response to the NTCO application for State Sales Tax Exemption. A brief discussion resulted in a motion by Tom Kashatus to amend the dissolution clause in our “Article of Incorporation” to fit the requirements of the *PA Department of Revenue*, seconded by Heidi Jarecki, with all voting in favor.
- d) Heidi Jarecki would like to see the NTCO Scholarship Fund move forward.

VII. *New Business*

- a) Tom Kashatus is looking for member and community feedback on an initiative to honor past and present armed service veterans of Newport Township. Anyone with ideas or suggestions is asked to contact Tom. Depending on response, there will be more discussion on this in the future. Due to the efforts of the late John Forgach, a roster of fallen soldiers and prisoners of war from the township has been established. To view, please use the following links; <http://www.newporttownship.com/veteran.htm> and http://www.newporttownship.com/POW_WW2.htm
- b) The next meeting of the *Newport Township Community Organization* is schedule for 6:30pm, Tuesday, October 22nd 2013 at the Guardian Elder Care Center in Sheatown.

VIII. *For the Good of the Organization*

- a) Maintenance of both the memorial tree at the Wanamie Recreation Park and garden at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon 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*

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner