

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

May 13th 2014, 6:30 P.M. EST

Coal Miners' Kitchen • Glen Lyon, PA.

Attendees:

Palmira Gregory Miller	Francis Zaleski	John Jarecki	Paul Jarecki	Steve Dymond
Tom Kashatus	Linda Conner	Debbie Prokop	Heidi Jarecki	Travis Strother (guest)
Bill Hourigan	Mary Jo Evans			

I. President, Palmira Gregory Miller called the meeting to order on the above date and time. In the absence of a quorum, Tom Kashatus made a motion to continue the meeting with eight (8) members and one (1) guest present, seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor. The president led the recital of the ***Pledge of Allegiance*** and proceeded with the order of business. Note! The quorum was later met with the arrival of three (3) more members.

II. Secretary, Linda Conner read the minutes from the previous meeting of April 8th 2014. Bill Hourigan made a motion that the minutes with noted corrections be accepted as read and placed on file, seconded by Debbie Prokop, with all voting in favor.

III. Treasurer, Francis Zaleski presented his report for May 13th 2014. Tom Kashatus made a motion that the treasurer's report is accepted as read and place on file, seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor.

IV. Reading of the Bills & Communications

- a) Francis Zaleski presented for payment an out-of-pocket expense of \$43.97 for office supplies. Linda Conner made a motion that the expense be reimbursed in full, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor.
- b) An invoice was received for payment from the ***Sedor Insurance Agency*** in the amount of \$744.00 for liability insurance on the officers & directors of the organization. Linda Conner made a motion to pay the invoice in full, seconded by Mary Jo Evans, with all voting in favor.
- c) A quotation was ***Yalch Insurance Agency*** representing ***Erie Insurance Group*** in the amount of \$349.00 for general liability insurance. Tom Kashatus informed members that ***Sedor Insurance Agency***, who now handles the policy for liability insurance on our officers & directors, could not provide us with the same level of general liability coverage that we were receiving from the ***Corbett Insurance Agency***. However, Yalch Insurance can provide the same level of coverage with significant monetary savings. As a change of carrier was previously discussed. Linda Conner made a motion to accept the quotation from the Yalch Agency for general liability insurance, seconded by Paul Jarecki, with all voting in favor.
- d) Tom Kashatus presented for payment an out-of-pocket expense of \$60.00 for engraving of the lifetime membership plaque. Mary Jo Evans made a motion that the expense be reimbursed in full, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor.
- e) Tom Kashatus presented an invoice for payment from ***PENDOT*** in the amount of \$6.00 for registration of the trailer. Linda Conner made a motion that the invoice be paid in full, seconded by Bill Hourigan, with all voting in favor.
- f) An out-of-pocket expense of \$214.39 was received from Carolyn Phillips for purchase of food items provided during the Great American Clean-Up. Bill Hourigan made a motion to reimburse the expense in full, seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor. Carolyn graciously prepared for lunch each day of the Big Junk Drop-Off event.
- g) Palmira Miller presented for payment an out-of-pocket expense of \$48.76 paid to ***Antonio's Pizza*** in Nanticoke for the purchase of 4 pies provided during the Great American Clean-Up. Antonio's graciously donated 4 additional pies; and an out-of-pocket expense of \$11.94 for the purchase of bottled water also provided during the Great American Clean-Up. Linda Conner made a motion to reimburse the total expense of \$60.70, seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor. Both items were available for volunteers at the Community Pride event.
- h) Palmira Miller presented for payment an out-of-pocket expense of \$21.82 paid to ***GO DADDY*** for maintenance of the NTCO website. Linda Conner made a motion that the expense be reimbursed in full, seconded by Tom Kashatus, with all voting in favor.
- i) A check was received from the ***United Way of Rhode Island*** in the amount of \$6.24 for payment as part of their designated non-profit program.
- j) A card was received from the ***American Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Post #539*** in appreciation of the monetary donation sent by NTCO.
- k) Palmira Miller informed members that she received notification from the ***State of Pennsylvania*** that the address has been corrected on the NTCO Certificate of Tax Exemption.
- l) Palmira Miller informed members that the NTCO brochures have been updated to include membership information.
- m) Tom Kashatus received a note from member, Alice Dymond objecting to the placement of a beehive at the butterfly garden. While there was previous discussion on the popularity of beehives, this was not something that NTCO discussed becoming involved with.

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V. *Reports of Committees*

- a) Membership – No Report
- b) Newsletter (Editors, Advertisements & Distribution) – Editor Paul Jarecki informed members that the deadline for articles and photographs to be featured in 2014 summer newsletter is the first week of July. Tom Kashatus reported that he has received positive response on the notification of death of both former and current township residences in the newsletter.
- c) Publicity – John Jarecki reported that a new photograph was taken of the check presentation to the **Newport Township Police Department** and that he has written an accompanying article. Both will be sent to the local newspapers for publication. Palmira reported that Ron Davis would like to present a check to the organization for contributions made on referrals. She asked that a photograph be taken of the event. Tom Kashatus reported that he contacted Leonarda (Leo) Berlew, who pens the ‘On or about Town’ column for the **Citizen’s Voice** newspaper regarding our Big Junk Drop-Off event. An article may be forthcoming.
- d) Newport Township Recreation Board – Heidi Jarecki reported that the **South Valley Chamber** has made a recommendation to the township for the building of another baseball field and that the board is considering the matter. Palmira informed Heidi that there are grants available that could possibly assist with funding. The board will meet again Wednesday, May 21st 2014 after the work session.
- e) Hospitality – Mary Margaret Kashatus reported via email that a condolence card was sent to the family of the late, Ron Baron. It was indicated in Mr. Baron’s obituary that donations in his memory should be sent to the Vincent de Paul soup kitchen. Following NTCO policy, Tom Kashatus made a motion to donate \$25.00, seconded by Linda Conner, with all voting in favor. A card was also sent to Joe Miller & family in condolence of the passing of his mother, Evelyn Miller. Tom stated that he would inform Mary Margaret of the passing of Robert Bush, Rosemarie Sopka and Dorothy Stegura.
- f) Great American Clean-Up – Palmira Miller informed members that she is putting together the final report for the combined events of the Great American Clean-Up. The clean-up of the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon was very poorly attended with only two members and one junior member present.
- g) Recycling – Tom Kashatus reported that 9,545 pounds of metal was recycled earning \$1,488.00 for the organization, 422 pounds of Christmas lights were recycled earning \$63.30 for the organization and 415 pounds of electrical cords were recycled earning \$ 332.00 for the organization.
- h) Summer Fun – Debbie Prokop reported that the presentation by **Folks Butterfly Farm** has been scheduled for Saturday, July 12th 2014 from 1pm to 3pm at the butterfly garden in Coal Street Park. Two, swimming days at the pool in Mocanaqua will also be scheduled during the summer. These events will need to be advertised in the local newspapers.
- i) Website Redesign Committee – Palmira Miller informed members that the proposed contract for the website redesign was reviewed by Attorney Chris Kule and that he recommended several changes be made prior the formalization. The proposed changes will be passed on to the website committee.
- j) NTCO 10th Anniversary Committee – A meeting of the committee has been scheduled for 6:30 pm, Monday, May 19th 2014 at the Coal Miner’s Kitchen in Glen Lyon.

VI. *Unfinished Old Business*

- a) Palmira stated she and secretary, Linda Conner would meet to work on our awards application that must be submitted to **Pennsylvania Environmental Council** by Sunday, June 1st 2014.
- b) Tom Kashatus reported that after contacting Dr. Scott, Newport Township resident and current, acting superintendent of the **Greater Nanticoke Area School District**, he was informed that Shawn Carey, an English teacher with the district would be interested in having students write for the newsletter.

VII. *New Business*

- a) Tom Kashatus reported that the former **Saint Dennis Church** in Glen Lyon that was used as the meeting hall of the **Knights of Columbus** and as the “unofficial” home of the **Newport Township Community Organization** has been sold. A discussion should be planned on choosing another home location.
- b) It was reported that the **State of Pennsylvania** has recently acquired over 3,000 acres of land in Conyngham, Newport and Slocum townships from **Earth Conservancy Inc.** to become part of the **North Branch Land Trust** for “protection of important plant and animal species” native to the area and “a host of passive recreation activities”.
- c) Heidi Jarecki reported that Jeff Stanton, postmaster of the **Glen Lyon Post Office** will be transferred to Nescopeck. His last day is Thursday, May 15th 2014. Heidi and Paul would like to give him a Newport Township tee-shirt on behalf of the organization. Tom Kashatus made a motion to accept, seconded by Steve Dymond, with all voting in favor. Heidi went on the say that the hours of operation for the post office will be scaled back and that a town meeting may be planned to make residents aware of the changes.
- d) The **County of Luzerne** will hold their annual, electronic recycling collection on Saturday, June 14th 2014 from 9am to 3pm at the Hanover Area High School. Registration is required.
- e) Travis Strother reported that the **Coal Miner’s Kitchen** should be open again for business in about two weeks.
- f) A regular meeting of the **Newport Township Community Organization** will be held 6:30pm, Tuesday, June 10th 2014 at the **Coal Miners’ Kitchen** on East Main Street in Glen Lyon.

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VII. *New Business continued*

- g) A work session of the *Newport Township Community Organization* will be held 6:30pm, Tuesday, June 24th 2014 at the *Coal Miners' Kitchen* on East Main Street in Glen Lyon.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted by: Linda Conner