

# BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

## MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 12:00p.m.

**MEMBERS:**

- \*Joseph DiGirolamo, Bensalem Township
- \*Maggie Rash, Buckingham Township
- \*Barbara Lyons, Doylestown Township
- \*Kathy Gentner, Durham Township
- David Nyman, East Rockhill Township
- \*Kathy Babb, Haycock Township
- Tom Courduff, Milford Township
- \*William Jones, New Britain Township
- Dick Weaver, Newtown Township
- \*David Long, Springfield Township
- Diana Nolan, Upper Makefield Township
- Dan McPhillips, Warminster Township
- \*Judith Algeo, Warwick Township
- \*Don Duval, West Rockhill Township
- Chester Pogonowski, Wrightstown Township
- \*Terry Clemons, Clemons Richter & Reiss, P.C.
- Vince Deon
- Amy Schreiber, Executive Director

\*NOT PRESENT

**1. Call to Order:** Mr. McPhillips called the meeting to order at 12:05p.m.

**2. Approval of the Minutes – April 10, 2019**

**No MOTIONS were made: informational meeting only due to not having a quorum:**

**3. Treasurer’s Report – April 2019:** Mr. Weaver presented the financial statements for April 2019. The total Liabilities & Equity is

\$92,292.42 and the Net Income for the month is \$18,487.39. And added that Dunlap has continued to be a great help and all of the BCATO tax returns have been filed noting that 501C3's have become a bit touchy with the IRS with non-profits and had to "resolve the cash" and it was donated to Parks and Recreation of Newtown. Lastly, he addressed the issue of how some members may have issues with opening the Treasures Report. He shared that for safety reasons this information has to be encrypted do to security sensitivities. Mr. Weaver also shared a letter of "thank you" from the recent scholarship award winner Sherry Yannich(sp).

#### **4. Executive Director Report**

Amy Schreiber re-capped the BCATO hospitality suite events and the ease of the logistics of execution of signage, food, staff other needed supplies for successful and well attended Bucks County event after noting some concerns prior will confirmation of the rooms and catering coordination. Chester Pogonowski added that things were pretty "tame" this year with the open bar and that the Conference itself seems to have added more events over the years but, agreed it was a success and no need for changes in the future. In discussion of the PSATS conference itself it was suggested by Amy that PSATS should have staffing at each microphone for better recognition of speaker to the podium. David Nyman agreed to suggest a survey go out to all attendees to request feedback and suggestions to iron -out some issues to tighten up the conference in the future. Amy announces Mr. Nyman's appointment to the PSATS Executive Board and all congratulated him on his achievement. Dianna Nolan made a suggestion that BCATO should raffle off a Bucks County basket to further have a footprint at the Conference next year. All Board members agreed. The last item on Ms. Schreiber's agenda was the discussion of the BCATO website. As previously discussed, the website is in dire need of updating. In her researching of the website background she discovered that we have been paying \$60 a month to a provider and not getting any service and fortunately the contract is up next month. This contract will not be renewed and Michael Gallagher will be retained at the cost approved at the last meeting to create a more "user friendly" site. After making everyone aware of the website constraints she asked for patience until this change is made and can get into the Cloud's provided information.

## **5. Committee Report**

The Legislative Committee met early April and the Board approved four new Members to the Committee; Stacy Mulholland, Sherry Labbs, Vince Deon, and Paul Calderaio. The Committee also designated all members Legislators for direct advocacy needs and communication. Dan McPhillips also shared that there is a partnership opportunity with Chester, Montgomery and possibility DelCo Counties to communicate monthly for advocacy collaboration as well as an opportunity of an Annual Dinner that Chester County already has a sponsor lined-up so there would not be a cost to BCATO. Dan also shared that he and in the future Maggie have been attending local township meetings to communicate shared issues, bring awareness and urge help in contacting legislators to express needs and concerns. The main issue right now is the Sterling Act. Dan will contact KeyStone for 2018 numbers of just how much 1mill will bring back into the County.

## **6. Resolution Committee**

Don Duval shared that the Resolutions submitted by BCATO to PSATS have been reviewed and accepted by the PSATS RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE. It was suggested that a member should only speak if there is opposition to 19-19, **a Resolution seeking legislation to restore municipalities' options to adopt and collect a mercantile or business privilege tax in those townships that specifically elect to adopt such a tax.** The BCATO Executive Board supported the submission of this resolution although the support was not unanimous.

Dave Nyman spoke to the concern of Resolution 19-11, **a Resolution seeking legislation to authorize municipalities to designate a collector for their property tax**, and shared that PSATS called "No Action" on this Resolution and

## **7. Other Business**

CEATO (South Eastern Association of Township Officials): Dave Nyman and Dan McPhillips shared that they met with the Chester County Association earlier this week and are making plans to build on mutual collaborations efforts especially in regard to the Sterling Act.

Dan McPhillips also mentioned that letters will be sent out to Legislators from their BCATO designated legislative committee member introducing themselves as their BCATO representative and touching on the concerns of the Sterling Act, SR6 Fire Fighters Bill and SB82 Tax Collectors Bills and emails will be sent to the members providing talking points on the three issues above.

Terry Clemons touched on the House Local Government Committee passing HB103, the Bill would amend the Municipalities Planning Code to require subdivision and land development ordinances to exempt up to two ‘nonbuilding’ lots or two or more “nonbuilding” lots if the property is being divided among immediate family members. Terry is not in support of this Bill.

Diana Nolan shared the April 30<sup>th</sup> “Active Shooter” event; Have a Plan Practice Response tactics Learn Mental Strategies to be held at Sol Feinstone Elementary School at 7:00 pm.

## **8. Adjournment:**

Being there was no further business, a motion was made by Barb Lyons and Seconded by Diana Nolan to adjourn the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Schreiber  
Executive Director