

# BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

## MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 12:00 p.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, Northampton Township  
Amy Schreiber, Executive Director

\*NOT PRESENT

**1. Call to Order:** President Dan McPhillips called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

**6.** Dan McPhillips went out of order on the Agenda to allow a guest speaker, Frank O'Donnell, Township Supervisor of Northampton Township speak to his efforts on the Sterling Act. Mr. O'Donnell shared from the data he collected, in the years of 2016 and 2017 Bucks County lost to the Philadelphia wage tax approximately \$8,847,999 and felt that number is even higher because of the way the law is written some individuals are not paying the tax at all; so there for there was an additional loss of approximately \$826,030. Mr. O'Donnell shared two excel spreadsheets which explained the formula of how he came to

these approximate numbers. Mr. Nyman suggested putting power behind these large numbers of money lost and share this information with the three surrounding counties, Montgomery, Chester and Delaware. Mr. Nyman went on to further explain that this loss of revenue - the residences end up covering the cost of what the townships must tax to maintain. Mr. O'Donnell added that this loss impacts the townships not having the funds for doing things that need to be done. Ms. Nolan and Mr. Nyman went on to further suggest that more education is needed and that Mr. McPhillips should write a press release stating our message and send it to the local papers.

## **2. Approval of the Minutes – August 22, 2019**

**MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Duval and, seconded by Ms. Rash to approve the minutes of August 22, 2019. The motion carried unanimously**

## **3. Treasurer's Report – August, 2019:**

Mr. Weaver presented the financial statements for August, 2019. Mr. Weaver also shared that he is taking our accounts down to just two accounts to make reporting easier to follow. Mr. Weaver also shared that revenue is exceeding expenses and continues to show the success of the organization. Ms. Rash asked about sponsorship and Ms. Schreiber explained that reaching out to sponsors is most definitely on her radar and that from a good mistake on PSATS part of listing our Dinner as a convention vendors have been calling to ask if they could have a table. Ms. Schreiber then went on to ask the Boards permission to add Table Sponsorships to what we offer and/or vendor presentations at Board meetings for "x" amount of money. Ms. Lyons thought that was a good idea and told Ms. Schreiber to run with what she thought appropriate and that overall we should raise sponsorship 30% in 2020. Also, Ms. Schreiber shared that Recorder of Deeds, Robin Robinson reached out to her through the suggestion of Judith Algeo that she would like to make a presentation to our Board. Ms. Rash stated that Ms. Robinson has been conducting a Township tour and that most in the room has seen her presentation and that it would be redundant. Mr. Nyman stated that it would not be a good value of time on her end or ours. Ms. Schreiber told the Board that she will circle back with Ms. Robinson.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Dave Nyman, seconded by Dan McPhillips to approve the August, 2019 Financial Statements. The motion carried unanimously.**

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

Ms. Schreiber shared the logistics in place for the Fall Dinner, registration table, name tags, room layout, needed mechanics, additional speaker, officers and speaker table, costs, menu, and other detailed logistics. Ms. Schreiber shared that as President, Mr. McPhillips will be the greeter and then asked for help with the registration table. Ms. Rash volunteered and stated that she will ask Ms. Gentner to help as well stating that she did last year. In discussion of the Agenda, everyone was fine with the layout, Ms. Lyons ask that I list Ms. Schreiber on the Agenda and that to make sure the sound system is tested before the event and is working properly. She also suggested that the third speaker be told the time limit is 10 minutes and that the other two have NO more than 15 minutes. Mr. Nyman agreed to speak with the one speaker and Mr. McPhillips agreed to speak to the others. Mr. McPhillips as the evening's host/MC asked if Mr. Nyman would point out the sponsors listed at the bottom of the Agenda. In discussion of the Internship Scholarship it was decided that Ms. Lyons should be the award presenter. Ms. Schreiber then brought forward the Internship Scholarship applicant John Simila for discussion. In discussion of the Richard "Doc" Derstine Youth Award, it was decided that there would not be an award recipient this year. Lastly, Mr. McPhillips, Ms. Rash and Ms. Schreiber held an event walk-through with the Event's Coordinator at the Doylestown Country Club to make sure the equipment and the room would be set-up properly.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Barb Lyons, seconded by Dan McPhillips to approve John Simila as the Youth Award winner. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **5. Legislative Committee Dinner Update**

Mr. McPhillips shared a quick update. He reported that Representative Farry spoke on the Firework Bill and that he is working to change that law as quickly as possible and that Representative Thomas spoke that she with Representative Farry are going to get as many co-sponsors as possible to repeal the Sterling Act. Representative Staats gave a general Legislative update on the State level and Congressman Fitzpatrick gave a Federal

Legislative update. Ms. Schreiber shared that almost all of the Bucks County Delegation was there and that it was very well attended and received.

## **6. Pending Legislation**

Ms. Rash shared the SR6 booklet that was given out at the August Meeting by Representative Farry as well as shared that Representative Farry is also working on gathering other Representatives to join in the effort to repeal the Sterling Act. Mr. Nyman shared that in the legislature there are two or more bills to repeal the Sterling Act that he will continue to keep an eye on. Ms. Rash also asked about HB1400 small cell legislation and Mr. Nyman shared that he is hoping that whatever bill moves forward that the municipalities will have a say but, he is unsure. He went on further to share that it seems that the legislature is getting pressure to pass a small cell bill especially with all of the different technology coming down the pipeline ie: smart carts etc. so he shared that we need to come to the realization that there is going to be a bill to allow small cell technology.

## **7. Other Business**

None

## **6. Adjournment:**

With no further business, a motion was made by Barb Lyons and seconded by Dave Nyman to adjourn the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Schreiber  
Executive Director