

# **BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 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  
\*Diana Nolan, Upper Makefield Township  
Judith Algeo, Warwick Township  
Chester Pogonowski, Wrightstown Township  
\*Terry Clemons, Clemons Richter & Reiss, P.C.  
Vince Deon, Northampton Township  
Fred Gains, Warrington Township  
\*Jim Miller, West Rockhill Township  
Amy Schreiber, Executive Director

\*NOT PRESENT

**1. Call to Order:** President Maggie Rash called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

**2. Approval of the Minutes – February 12, 2020**

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Jones and, seconded by Mr. Courduff to approve the minutes of February 12, 2020. The motion carried unanimously

**3. Treasurer's Report – February 2020:**

Mr. Weaver presented the financial statements for February 2020. Again, he stated that we are in good financial shape starting the new year. Mr. Weaver also shared that Dunlap invoiced the Association \$1,600 for accounting work and once again noted that the work was done as an in-kind contribution. BCATO also received a thank you note for contributing \$250 in honor of Frank Fazzalore from the Bucks County Community College. It was decided that the Association would keep 7 years of records and Mr. Weaver would work with Julie Davis at Dunlap as to governance as to how to scan the past information into computer files. Mr. Gains asked Mr. Weaver if BCATO would support the Chief of Police with a \$113 Membership fee for the 2020 year.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Judith Algeo, seconded by Tom Courduff to approve the \$113 Membership Fee. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Gains also shared that the Chief of Police would like to become a Member of BCATO. The Board appreciated the potential support of the Chief of Police Association.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Dave Nyman, seconded by Kathy Gentner to approve the February 2020 Financial Statements; Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Ms. Schreiber started her report with the Annual Convention. Again Ms. Schreiber stated that the Convention was sold out as to Members attended and exhibitors. Mr. Courduff added that he appreciated the “interesting exchange” concerning legalizing marijuana. Ms. Rash shared that especially having a controversial resolution we should email proposed resolutions prior to the Convention day for Membership to review. Ms. Rash went on to further share that she looked through the bylaws and they state that Resolutions should be proposed 4 weeks prior to the Convention, and we should either change the bylaws or stick to them. A discussion was also held as to all the paper we had to recycle after the event due the to many handouts. Ms. Rash shared that the Agenda was emailed to the Membership prior why not the additional hand outs as well and that Members should be responsible for

printing (if would like) and bring their own copies. Discussion was also held as to where we would like the Convention next year. All agreed that the Northampton County Club was a great venue and is centrally located and best of all we are supporting the Township since the Club is Township owned. The next topic for discussion was the upcoming PSATS Convention. Ms. Schreiber shared that the rooms have been reserved, the sponsorship board is ready to print and food for the suite was discussed at the meeting and would be ordered accordingly, however, concerns were shared if the PSATS Convention would be held or not with the recent news of the COVID-19 new guidelines and potential rapid restrictive upcoming changes. All agreed we would move forward until further notice. Ms. Schreiber then passed out the 2020 Directory for discussion and approval. Ms. Rash felt the Directory should be ready by the Convention date and Ms. Schreiber agreed to disagree. With new Board Members being voted on for approval at the Convention, the unprecedented newly elected officials, requesting new contact information from Managers and formatting 30 pages of new information along with the 3 week printing time-line - having 2 weeks to have precise information is not obtainable especially for an additional job. All agreed next year should be easier as it will not be a big election year and the goal is to have the Directory ready for the Annual Convention each year. A discussion as also held as to if the Directory should be linked on the website. The Board agreed that the information in the Directory is personal contact information and should be for Members only not for public use so it was decided a PDF would not be linked to the website. New Members on subcommittees were discussed and it was decided that the Chairs of the subcommittees could invite Members to join committees as they deem appropriate. Lastly, on topic of guest speakers it was decided that speakers should be given 10 minutes at the end of the monthly Agenda for presentations.

## **6. SEATO**

Mr. Nyman and Ms. Rash thanked all that participated in the SEATO Meeting held in King of Prussia. They shared that the movement to abolish Tax Collectors is still in the mix and knowing how our neighboring counties feel about the issue is important. Ms. Rash shared that she would have liked more enthusiasm as to collaborative efforts to the importance of abolishing the outdated Sterling Act.

## **6. Other Business**

A discussion and vote were held concerning new leadership for the 2020 Executive Board.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Rash, seconded by Fred Gains to approve Dave Nyman as BCATO 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. The motion carried unanimously.**

The topic of Ag Tourism was once again discussed, and Mr. Nyman shared that Representative Polinchock is amending his proposed bill to not over-ride local zoning. Lastly, the topic of the Association's website was mentioned and Ms. Rash shared that she will be meeting with the current webmaster and will also be in discussion with other possible vendors as to updating our look and providing more pertinent information in a more user friendly manor.

## **7. Adjournment:**

With no further business, the BCATO President called the meeting adjourned. at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Schreiber  
Executive Director