

Minutes:
BBLA Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday June 23, 2018
10:00 am
South Coastal Library

The annual membership meeting took place on Saturday, June 23, 2018. Approximately 60 members were in attendance (roster sheet was collected by Tracy Mulligan). BBLA Board Members present were: Kathy Sierra, Kathy Shorter, Judy Bullis, Diane Fogash, Susan Fried, Pat McGuire, Tracy Mulligan, Jack Walsh, Mary Louise Embrey, and Joe Smith

Board members not present: Jerry Hardiman (recovering from surgery), Margaret Young (rehab), Larry Fishel (away), Claire Loftus (away), and Martin Decre (pending surgery)

Approval of May 19, 2018 minutes was moved and seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Delivered by Susan Fried

- Handout was provided showing the 2017 year-end report and the 2018 year-to-date (YTD) report
- Highlights:
 - Assets as of 6/18/18 - \$79,943
 - Total expenses YTD - \$12,555
 - Donations average around \$4,000 and are usually allocated during the last 6 months of the calendar year
 - Chart of Accounts have been reorganized in 2018 – aligning expenses with BBLA's mission
 - Money Market account was closed due to low interest payout and merged with BBLA's checking account
- Question/suggestion was posed by a member regarding a higher donation amount for the annual [Operation SEAs the Day – Warrior Family Beach Week](#)
 - Response given by Tracy that the Donations Committee will consider the matter
- The **MOTION** to approve the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded, and **approved**

President's Report: Delivered by Tracy Mulligan

- Board (new and long-term members) examined the BBLA operations, structure of committees, etc.
- Roles and leadership positions shifting amongst Board Members
- Discussed activities and progress made in each committee
- Discussed the current *Knowledge and Skills Inventory*

- After introducing the new officers, the **MOTION** to approve the Board Member Terms and New Officers was made, seconded, and **approved**
- The **MOTION** to approve the Bylaws change concerning virtual attendance at Board meetings was made, seconded, and **approved** after discussion raised by a member to indicate Board Members attending virtually could also vote on motions
- Discussion took place regarding proxy votes at the annual meeting and members voting/attending virtually; and the possibility of members attending virtually to portions of Board Meetings

Dr. Bruce Frye Presentation – Town Council Member Discussed Beach Replenishment

- BB owns the beach and the ramps, but can't do anything without having discussions with DNREC – Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Sen. Carper is on the committee making annual appropriations for beach replenishment
 - Supposed to be replenished every 3 years – however, delay has occurred due to lack of appropriations
- BB has a SERF – storm emergency relief fund - recovery plans for the town when disaster hits – FEMA only covers 75%
 - Council can use other reserves, if necessary
 - There is a Blackwater Storage Facility which also has emergency offices for BB – located in Frankford because it is on higher ground

Charles Miller Presentation – Environmental Consulting Expert Discussed Storm Water and Tidal Flooding

- Provided some perspective on BB flooding over the last 40 years
 - Original houses were built at sea level
 - Rt 1 is about 3 ft above sea level; Town Hall is 9 ft; and Pennsylvania Avenue is at sea level
 - DE is in the Atlantic Coastal Plain – flat and sandy – fall line of the Piedmont Mountains (weathering products make up BB soil)
 - Freshwater and saltwater are combined; but the saltwater being heavier doesn't move as fast as freshwater
 - Making the channels deeper doesn't add to storm water capacity
 - Fred Hudson Tide Gauge can be viewed on-line – shows what's happening with water levels in real time
- Discussed the wetlands issues
 - DE has jurisdictional wetlands – code doesn't define *local mean high water*; maps lack correlation with the tidal benchmarks
 - Wetlands should always be preserved for their value
- Other points were discussed
 - Springs do not appear to be active in BB
 - Local sea level rise – 3 ½ mm/year
 - Water can only drain during low tide; Holland and New Orleans pump it out

- Bladder Dams are possible – double edge sword for some of the “fixes”
- Core of Engineers would have to study the Indian River Inlet but no concrete plans
- Hard surface building creates major problems for flood plains – town council should prohibit building in those areas
- Some reports from the Core of Engineers are available on the [BB Town website](#)
- Storm sewers are not working properly in town; however, fixing them doesn't help because of the sea level issue
- Pilings should be used for houses, because the issue is not going to get any better

Members were invited to talk with the speakers and the Board Members after the meeting adjourned at 11:50 pm.