

BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held on Wednesday, October 9, 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.
- *Vincent Deon
- Amy Schreiber, Executive Director

*NOT PRESENT

1. Call to Order: Mr. McPhillips called the meeting to order at 12:04p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes – September 11, 2019

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

3. Treasurer's Report – September 2019:

Mr. Weaver presented the financial statements for September 2019. The total Liabilities & Equity is \$86,791.27. Mr. Weaver shared that after speaking with Julie Davis of Dunlap the decision has been made for a consolidation of the three listed banking reports to two. The Treasures Report will still show every line item listed now and will detail the same revenue, expenses and budget actuals but, it will be a much smoother report and much easier to work with and read. Dunlap has issued two invoices but, both were indicated as “in kind” for their services.

4. Executive Director Report

Amy Schreiber re-capped the BCATO Fall Reception and Dinner. All agreed that the logistics of the evening went smoothly and the speakers were very informative. Ms. Schreiber shared some thoughts of why the attendance was a bit low; Bench Bar was the same night and that many of our Board members were unable to attend due to attending the Bench Bar event, a Thursday night Eagles game and two school districts Back to School nights. She further explained that she did not invite elected officials as has been done in the past. This was a good and bad thing because the legislators did not pay to attend and BCATO had to pick up the cost of the dinners. (It was decided that next year we would invite legislators to the networking/ reception but, if they wanted to attend the dinner they would be expected to pay). The total cost of the event was \$2,400 which was a bit light and the amount collected to date was \$1,825 with an outstanding balance of \$575. A total of 17 people did not show and there were 0 walk-ins. Ms. Schreiber shared that in her experience hosting these types of events she has never experienced that high of a number of no shows and has never hosted an event where there was not a few walk-ins. A discussion was held as to why that was the case and Ms. Rash and Mr. Nyman shared that the township covers the cost so it's not a big incentive to attend if something else comes up. The Board also discussed the manner of how the Managers were contacted and after a discussion it was decided that next year in the private emails to the Managers to also attach some type of form that they can fill out and email directly back to sign-up attendees and their food choices. A discussion was then held to consider a raise of sponsorship costs and it was decided that at this time we would keep prices the same due to the pause of engagement when there was an executive director vacancy. Ms. Schreiber announced individual company Executive Board

“presentation” sponsorships offered at the price point of the cost of meeting luncheons. She then asked the Board’s suggestion as to the length of the presentation time. A 10-15 minute presentation time was agreed to and then Ms. Schreiber shared the importance of attending Board meetings must be strongly suggested when onboarding new members to insure a good turnout for the sponsors. Moving on to the topic of Executive Committees, Ms. Schreiber passed the list of committee members and asked for the Board to make any changes or additions so that the website could be updated properly. Changes were added and Mr. McPhillips and Maggie Rash added that they would like to merge the Education and the Membership Committee into one committee and the Board agreed.

5. Legislative Update

Mr. Nyman shared that he spoke with a reporter at the Courier Times that was coordinated through Representative Frank Farry’s office. The reporter is preparing to write a detailed article concerning the Sterling Act. The article should be in this Sunday’s newspaper (Oct. 13th). Mr. Nyman then shared three different sheets of information to help share the “why” for the much needed reform of this Act. First, he shared his Sterling Act Talking Points and ask for the Board to review and share with him any additions or comments prior to his sharing with other surrounding counties. Mr. Nyman then shared that he had two one on one meetings with Wendy Ullman and Todd Polinchock concerning why the repeal of the Sterling Act is needed and to educate them on the amount of money their district/constituents are being denied to help support the local community. He stressed that this is a bi-partisan issue that has a significant financial impact to their community. Lastly, Mr. Nyman shared a list of the Philadelphia Wage Tax Impact to Bucks County broken down by municipalities which totaled in revenue lost to the County of \$9,674,029.06. Mr. Nyman also shared that the reason why the school districts don’t seem to be involved as much in the efforts to reform the Sterling Act is because 79% of this loss is reimbursed to the school district by the Department of Education. In other legislative news, Mr. Clemons asked Mr. Nyman about 3rd party contractor’s legislation and Mr. Nyman agreed to look into what is being introduced on the State level. Ms. Rash spoke that she will check with Mr. Pogonowski concerning the municipal cooperative and will report back.

6. Other Business

Mr. Clemons shared that Mr. Long resigned from his Supervisor seat last night (Oct. 8th) so we will have to consider a replacement on the Executive Board. A discussion was then held that the Board should be more diverse.

7. Adjournment:

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Schreiber
Executive Director