

BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held on Wednesday, April 10, 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.
Amy Schreiber, Executive Director

*NOT PRESENT

1. Call to Order: Mr. McPhillips called the meeting to order at 12:10p.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes – March 13, 2019

MOTION: A motion was made by Dave Nymam, seconded by Diana Nolan and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of March 13, 2019.

The minutes of the February 16, 2019 Annual Convention will be held for approval at the Fall Reception.

3. Treasurer's Report – March 2019: Mr. Weaver presented the financial statements for March 2019. Revenue over Expenses is \$22,376.93 and Assets are \$100,181.96. BCATO received an in-kind invoice of \$850.00 from the accounting firm of Dunlap and Associates. Mr. Weaver shared that we receive approximately \$3-4000.00 of Dunlap staff services a year, including Budget prep. We need to check and see if contributions like these receive “Thank You” notes.

MOTION: A motion was made by Bill Jones, seconded by Barb Lyons to approve the March 2019 Financial Statements; Motion carried unanimously.

4. Executive Director Report

Amy Schreiber discussed the upcoming PSATS Convention and shared that actions have been taken to secure the BCATO hospitality suite and all appropriate needs for a successful four day event. She also brought up the discussion of the BCATO website. The website is in dire need of updating and asked for approval to explore the idea of a new Webmaster and to take other actions to seek better maintenance and provide “real time” updating.

MOTION: A motion was made by Barb Lyons, seconded by Diana Nolan to give Amy Schreiber the authority to research and bring forward a contract for website updating needs; Motion carried unanimously.

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 asked that on Monday, April 15th at Noon during the Resolutions Committee Meeting to come up with a "plan of action" for a voting member to approach the podium and call for reconsideration of the resolution and provided talking points.

7. Fall Reception

The Board decided to keep with the Northampton venue for two events in a row before moving on to another location. It was also suggested that a scout of the hosting facility should occur prior to the day of the event to avoid problems that occurred recently such as sound and placement of the podium and the panel.

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 30th "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