

**Silver Beach Association
September 9, 2023 Fall Membership Meeting
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order and Scott Jeffery opened the meeting by letting members know that Board Secretary Karen Larkin would not be attending the meeting. The minutes from the Spring 2023 Membership Meeting were approved.

- **President's Opening Remarks**

Scott Jeffery provided a recap of the successful Family Day held on September 2, 2023 as well as the event held on September 1, 2023 to honor and thank Ken Ashman for his years of service as Captain of the Silver Beach Association lifeguards. Members that did not attend the event for Ken were told of the gifts the Association gave to Ken. In addition, he thanked Lauren Ashman and John Kuriscak for the outstanding job they did in taking over for Ken as the leaders of our lifeguards. A shout out of appreciation was given to all the guards that served our community during the summer of 2023.

Scott also provided an overview of his letter to the Township of Toms River and NJ Department of Environmental Protection regarding the conditions of the entryway walkovers to Silver Beach created by their lack of adequate beach maintenance since the storms of September/October of 2022, and the lack of dune replenishment by the Township/NJDEP/Army Corps of Engineers, as originally intended. To date no response has been received to Scott's August 15, 2023 letter.

Scott expressed his appreciation for the work and volunteerism of the Executive Committee and thanked the Association members that assisted with the season's events: beach cleaning, kids' day, Bay Beach event, Family Day activities, clothing/swag sales, and maintenance of the plantings.

The membership was informed about the Association's clothing/swag sales reporting a net profit of approximately \$4,000-\$5,000. Remaining clothing items will be discounted and on sale immediately following this meeting. In addition, Scott let attendees know that an arrangement had been made for the SBA guards to handle all clothing/swag ordering and sales beginning next summer.

Scott reported that he, Karen Kosch and Manny Alvarez will be conducting a review of the Association's By-laws this offseason and any recommended updates/changes will be made at the Spring meeting in June 2024.

Ocean Beach Report:

- Manny Alvarez reiterated earlier comments about how smoothly and successfully the beach ran this past season and credited John's and Lauren's leadership for making that happen.

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- Manny expressed his appreciation for the work done at the Ocean Beach by Gabby, Carmella and the young people hired to assist with badge checking and sales. More than \$50,000 of additional badge sales occurred this past summer.
- Manny discussed more details about the plan for the lifeguards to order, set-up, and sell the clothing/swag and said he is investigating alternative money collection options to cash. Solutions such as Venmo and Zelle will be explored.
- We will have to replace our rescue boat this offseason. The SBA reserves for the boat are fully funded and will be used to make the purchase of a new one. The new boat will be named in honor of Ken Ashman. Consideration will be given to several ideas about how best to use/dispose of the old boat.
- The oceanside mat on Fishermans Road must be replaced. An arrangement with Toms River allowing us to use that walkover to drive the mule and move the jet ski on and off the beach requires the Association to maintain and/or replace that mat. A decision will be made about repair versus replacement this coming offseason.
- We expect the beach walkover mats to be rolled up by Toms River for this coming winter and put back by the Township in the spring.
- The lifeguard storages boxes will remain where they are for the upcoming offseason and next summer.
- Maintenance will continue to be done over the winter, as necessary.

Insurance Report: The budget for insurance has been increased to cover premium increases as necessary, and we have not had to change carriers for renewal of any policies.

Bay Beach Report: Linda Bosland provided a summary report of the Bay Beach activities on behalf of Bill Bosland as Bill is unable to attend the meeting. Fencing will be installed again this winter, and any necessary maintenance items will be addressed in the coming Spring. General commentary amongst the membership followed about using the Bay Beach for more activities in the future.

Scott indicated our 2024 Budget will not require an increase in member dues, and there will be no change in the badge sale rates for next summer. Special recognition was given to Gabby for her diligence in her position.

- **Treasurer Report:** Andrea Greco discussed the 2023 Forecasted Financials that were distributed with the September 6, 2023 letter from the Executive Committee. Andrea went on to identify the sources of the additional income shown on the financials, as well as to explain the differences in budgeted expenses for 2024. The bulk of the increased expenses for next year are related to the capital purchases for replacement of the lifeguard boat and purchase of a new oceanside mat for Fishermans Road, and the necessary salary increases for lifeguards, which is necessary to retain our lifeguards and avoid having them poached by other island beaches. Additional community improvements are also being planned. After the above capital purchases, total reserves are projected to be \$306,780 at the end of 2024.

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Andrea informed the membership that we had purchased a CD at TD Bank to earn more interest on our reserve funds in savings, and we opened another SBA account at TD Bank to take advantage of TD's no fees policy for cash deposits (which Wells Fargo charges for).

The budget was approved as proposed and presented.

Scott thanked Andrea for her years of tireless service as Treasurer and the Executive Committee presented her with a gift of appreciation.

- **Election to Open Trustee Positions**
 - Treasurer – Carrie Cardace
 - Entertainment Chair – Jaime Desmond

Carrie and Jaime were unanimously elected to the open 2-year terms for the above trustee positions. The following was conveyed by the EC to members regarding Carrie's election:

Regarding SBA finances: *As the new SBA Treasurer, Carrie will take over from Andrea the management of the finances, bank accounts, investments, payroll, and tax preparation/filing. The Treasurer (Carrie) and President (Scott Jeffery) will be the only authorized signers going forward on bank checks, the CD, and opening an investment account. Andrea and Trustees previously authorized to sign checks drawn on any Silver Beach Association accounts will be removed from those accounts as soon as possible.*

- **Tennis/Pickleball Report** – Patsy noted that we had a very successful tennis/pickleball season this past summer and there will be no tennis dues increase for 2024.
- **Community Improvements Committee** – Scott thanked Karen Kosch and members for being committed to continuous improvement and maintenance of the beach entrance areas at the end of each oceanside street. Karen Kosch thanked the many members involved with and engaged in community improvement projects. Karen reported the little free library at the bay continues to be very successful and there is now an app to find similar ones in the area. Ideas to utilize the Bay Beach for social events will be discussed in the Spring. The dune replenishment project that was put out to bid, awarded, and expected to be completed beginning in October 2023 is being held up. No new date for dune replenishment has been set and Toms River and NJDEP remain silent.
- **New Business** – Kevin Siller of East Colony Road informed the meeting that during the last week of storms and very rough surf there were two water rescues necessary (both successful thankfully) that occurred off Silver Beach. Among the concerns expressed by members present at these rescues was the fact that the 911 dispatcher could not adequately recognize the beach location where an ambulance was needed. Kevin and others indicated they were providing both street locations and the beach walkover location numbers that Toms River assigned to each street in Silver Beach for emergency purposes like these rescues. The dispatcher was unfamiliar with the Toms River numbering system, which resulted in a 25-minute delay until an ambulance

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arrived. Kevin proposed some lifesaving apparatus be kept outside at the beach storage sheds year-round for water rescue emergencies that occur during the offseason and when guards are not on duty. Manny Alvarez will discuss this with John and Lauren and notify the membership when a decision is finalized. Kevin indicated that he would assist with securing and maintaining whatever the guards suggested. Scott indicated that he would reach out to the Toms River Police Lieutenant responsible for community relations about the dispatch issue and report back to the membership.

A request was made to consider extending the lifeguards hours on Labor Day. Manny will discuss with John and Lauren and the result of that discussion and any agreement to extend Labor Day guard hours will be provided at the Spring meeting.

- **Close of Meeting**

- **Next Membership Meeting – Saturday, June 8, 2024 at 10AM** Payment of the 2024 membership dues will be required no later than June 8th to avoid penalty.
- **A Motion was approved, and the meeting was adjourned.**