



BEACH HAVEN CREST • BEACH HAVEN GARDENS • BEACH HAVEN PARK
BEACH HAVEN TERRACE • BRIGHTON BEACH • HAVEN BEACH
NORTH BEACH HAVEN • PEAHALA PARK • SPRAY BEACH • THE DUNES

Minutes of LBT10 Membership Meeting at Ship Bottom Fire House on September 17, 2022

Prepared by Melina Morrow

The meeting kicked off with Bill Malone welcoming the group, and he thanked Deidre Fitzpatrick for her assistance with Zoom to allow members to participate remotely.

Ed O'Donnell then provided an update on the 2022 Membership Drive. The LBT10 has about 450 members, and the current priority of the organization is to increase membership. The more members we have, the more voices we have, and the more effective we will be at representing our interests. The 2022 Membership Drive included an outreach to current members, Sandpaper ads, brochures, mailings, and door to door canvassing of all properties in the 10 towns. Ed thanked all of the committee members who volunteered their time, covering over 4000 homes across the 10 towns. Our goal is to get to 500 members by April. One of the members in the audience suggested advertising with a radio ad on WBNJ 91.9.

Steve Salvati provided the Treasurer's Report, showing a net cash position of \$4,942. He explained that many of the expenses were start up costs, including upfront costs for setting up the website. Steve is currently working on the 2023 budget, and he noted that the LBT10 is now a 501(c) organization and is registered as a Charity with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs. One of the members in the audience asked about the dues, and Steve explained that when they started collection in 2021 the revenue went towards 2022, and everything collected after August 31, 2022 is going towards 2023. In mid 2023 he expects that a notice will go out to all members regarding the 2023 dues. When asked if the revenue met his expectations, he explained that the \$25 per household is comparable to other taxpayer associations on the island. With the unknown upfront costs it was hard to determine, but he believes we are currently in a good cash position and will not need to collect 2023 dues until around June of next year.

The Guest Speaker, Dr. Bob Stern, provided an insightful update on the Offshore Wind Farm. All of the information he discussed can be found on the website www.savelbi.org. The goal of this non-profit, non-partisan organization is not to oppose wind energy, but to get the turbines placed 35 miles out to the "Hudson South" area. The current Atlantic Shores Project will place 200 turbines 9 miles off the coast between Beach Haven and Holgate, with another 157 turbines 9 miles out by Barnegat Light. The height of a turbine is the length of 3 football fields. Projects have been done successfully in Europe, but they are 40 miles offshore after receiving pushback from the shore communities. This project off LBI would be the largest, tallest, closest and most visible wind complex in the world. Dr. Stern explained that the federal government makes the final decision on the placement, but it is the state that makes the decision to purchase power from the leased area – the state buys the power, which enables the project.

Save LBI has filed a lawsuit because the process has been flawed. An environmental impact statement should have been done and gone out to the public to reach a decision. All of the mayors across the towns on LBI support the lawsuit, and there was an article in the Sandpaper about the process.

Dr. Stern discussed in detail the impact this project will have on LBI. It will have a significant impact on the local economy, with a loss in rental demand, lowering tourism revenue, loss of property value, and potential commercial fishing loss. In addition, it will reduce shore breezes by about 26% and increase local LBI air temperature. It will

potentially block the migration of critically endangered whales and drive other endangered whales toward the shore. It threatens the local piping plover population, and it is located in the Department of Defense exclusion zone. In response to a question, Dr. Stern said that Save LBI is getting support now from local members of the community, with Pagnotta donating his billboard on Rt. 72, Tom Hughes from The Shell donating a 30 second video, and Mancini putting the petition and information on the township website.

A much better location for the turbines would be the area of Hudson South, which at 30-57 miles offshore will eliminate visibility, tourism, rentals and property value concerns - that is the objective of Save LBI.

Bill Malone thanked Dr. Stern for his insight, and invited all members to socialize and discuss further over the refreshments provided.