



Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 7/22/2023

Time/Location: 9:00 AM- Rockafella's By the Sea- Ortley Beach

Board Member Attendees: Julie Shino, Paul Jeffrey, Bob Steigelman, Joe Scarfuto, Gail D'Amico, Ruth Manning, Tim O'Shea (part time)

Absent: Missy Faul

Roll Call: All were present except Tim and Missy.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

Our purpose was a call for action. We are looking for people with new ideas who are willing to actively plan and assume responsibility to follow through on a commitment to serve your neighbors in making Ortley Beach a vibrant community.

A big thank you to Rockafella's for allowing us to have the meeting on their porch and Pressed in Ortley Beach for donating the refreshments.

Each member gave his/her personal history and why they joined the Board of the Friends of Ortley Beach organization. Julie Shino- President

Julie became involved in Friends of Ortley Beach as Vice President 2018 with the first event she actively participated in being the Toms River Makerfest in October 2018. She became President in 2020 and she spoke about how the Covid 19 shut down changed our events making them virtual or outside social distancing. Yet we were still able to hold over 15 events, staying in touch with our community. Each year we have added more and more events. The 2023 beach events needed to be cancelled due to lack of space on the beach.

Paul spoke about being one of the founders of Friends of Ortley Beach, with a few other people, when they realized that the existing homeowner organization, OBVTA, was unable to do some of the things a non-profit 501-c-3 could do.

A new sister organization could be fully tax-exempt and, importantly, would be eligible for nonprofit grants to do educational and community events that were currently quite limited.

Since superstorm Sandy had destroyed our sense of community, there was a desperate need to have an organization that could bring us together, get to know one another and rebuild an Ortley Beach sense of community.

That vision was fulfilled when Friends of Ortley Beach was formed and

- received grants for a speaker's program,
- held summer kite night events which drew huge crowds,
- ran our summer craft fair
- provided scholarships to local high school students
- and perhaps most importantly held a hugely successful Beach Bash.

He mentioned that all of this was successful because of a fully dedicated board of directors and an even larger number of volunteers who helped with every event.

When Covid-19 hit, Friends of Ortley Beach suffered and lost some momentum. It also lost some board members due to other obligations in their lives.

And our President has been tirelessly leading this organization for 4 years now.

Paul said he wants to see Friends of Ortley Beach continue to do its great work, to bring the community of Ortley Beach and the surrounding area together. To continue the craft fair, to continue speaker events, to continue kite nights, and hopefully to continue those great beach parties.

However, for that to happen we need new life on our board and people who are willing to donate the time to make this community what it should be.

Paul said he was at this meeting to plead that someone in the room step forward and join this organization so it can continue to be a success as it has been in the past.

He is terribly fearful that if that does not happen, Friends of Ortley Beach will die on the vine this fall. That would be a huge shame given what we have done so far.

Gail spoke about being a founding member of Friends of Ortley Beach and spoke about the 4 pillars.

Joe spoke about being the Treasurer of the organization and the responsibilities of that position.

Ruth spoke about being the newest board member and a homeowner in Ortley Beach since 1998. She became a full-time resident in 2018 and is excited to be a part of the FOB organization to help plan and execute events that serve our community.

Bob commented on who he is as a person with a teamwork background playing basketball, serving in the Marine Corps, and my many years working in advertising. The FOB video and its contents demonstrated what he brings to the table. As a "Superstorm Sandy" survivor, he spoke to the importance of creating community cohesion for residents living off the coast of America. Our events and the history book "A Beach Called Ortley" promotes the Friends of Ortley Beach brand. He shared his feelings that efforts that create an interaction between our neighbors build a stronger, more enhanced community identity. A place one is proud to call home.

Open Forum:

- Michele Bucci suggested having Co-President position. Julie Shino shared an idea of having a Past President executive position for one year following his/her presidency term. These are things that can be discussed at a strategy session.
- Keith asked if Friends of Ortley Beach was in the "red or black." It was shared that the organization is in the black and that many of the costs associated with events are sponsored by local businesses.
- Judy asked what we were specifically looking for at this time. It was explained that we are looking for people to take action for FOB. We have lots of people who have lots of ideas and we need people to join our strategy sessions.

Adjournment – 10:20 AM.

Attendance:

Julie Shino	Sue Haas
Paul Jeffrey	Michele Bucci
Bob Steigelman	Paul Jeffrey
Joe Scarfuto	Joan Nowak
Gail D'Amico	Dan Mitchell
Ruth Manning	Deb Mitchell
Sandie Corabello	Anne Marie Purri
Georgia Ann Silva	Joe Purri
Cynthia Kooy	Rita Catania
Judy Zodykoy	Toni Catania
Keith Myers	MaryAnn Kiczeh
Linda Beverly	Paul Kilzek
Denise Gaude	Danny Coppola
Audrey Gaude	Christine Coppola
Rosann Ferraro	Jason Karpi
Doreen Corsetto	Paula Luongo
Mary Jo Duprey	Jerry Luongo
Cathy Cris	Karen Melborn
Rick Manning	Ray Melborn
Rob Shino	Joe Cianfrone
Theresa Appolina	Emily Vosseller
	Brian Vosseller

Thanks for your commitment and dedication to Friends of Ortley Beach!