



**SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE
JOINT COUNCIL OF TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATIONS OF LBI
MONDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2022**

- ▶ **JCTA/ALO October 22 Island Clean Up Day Debrief** Casey Deacon from Alliance For A Living Ocean (“ALO”) advised that 257 volunteers participated on LBI during this event. She said she had never seen so many people on the beaches, streets and bayside during this event, which happens twice year (spring & fall). Members from all taxpayer associations participated, but Barnegat Light had a particularly strong showing with 45 volunteers.

Over 600 pounds of trash were collected from LBI. All the data from the volunteers’ tally sheets are consolidated into one easily readable report and the results help legislation get passed because the data support the need. Casey pronounced the event a “great success.”

Fun facts about the trash collected during the Clean Up:

- 1) Cigarette butts used to be the #1 item found on beaches; today, they are #6. Bottle caps are at the top of the list now.
- 2) The presence of straws and plastic bags is declining because legislation has passed banning their use, but balloons are a constant.

- ▶ **In memoriam** JCTA is honoring our friend and past president Barbara Truncellito by donating a tree, which will be planted at St. Claire’s Church in Loveladies in the spring along with a memorial plaque.
- ▶ **Discount passes to the Lighthouse International Film Festival (“LIFF”)** From November 26 through December 1, 2022, the LIFF is offering all members of LBI taxpayer & property owners associations a discount on Full-Access and Film-Only passes to be used during the June 2023 film festival:

\$110 for a Full-Access Pass (\$150 regular price)

\$89 for a Films Only Pass (regular price \$115).

LIFF will issue a special code that members of each taxpayer and property owners association need to use when they purchase these passes. This code will be sent to the presidents of the taxpayer and property owners associations as soon as it is released by LIFF personnel.

- ▶ **JCTA survey about the windmills** As you know by reading past summaries of JCTA meetings and talking with your JCTA representatives, we have vigorously debated the wisdom of JCTA launching a survey to inquire about how people feel about the wind energy farm off LBI and how informed they feel about that project.

A motion was passed (although not unanimously) that directs all representatives to discuss the survey with their boards and vote to either approve or not approve the distribution of the survey to their TA members OR to continue to discuss. The deadline to finish these conversations and advise JCTA’s secretary of the results is December 1, 2022.

► **Reports from the priority committees**

☆ **Beach Erosion / Replenishment** The petition to be published under the JCTA umbrella is going through its final revisions. When completed, the committee chair will share it with all the LBI mayors and personnel in Representative Van Drew's office. After that, the petition will be released to the taxpayer and property owner associations for distribution to their members. The associations would encourage member participation through email, newsletters, on websites and through social media.

Note that Mayor Mancini has advised that getting the approval for the \$32M that Representative Van Drew has spoken about as a relatively easy process is not. It turns out that the \$32M for LBI replenishment tucked into the budget of the Army Corps of Engineers and essentially guaranteed for approval was neither tucked in nor a slam dunk. The request is working its way through Congress and the allocation has been cut in the Senate to \$18M. Mayor Mancini's estimate of the funds that it will take to replenish the entire island is \$38M.

The Army Corps of Engineers is supposed to come back to replenish every seven years into perpetuity. This petition underscores the fact that there are a lot of New Jersey voters who want this replenishment to happen and thousands of signatures on the petition confirm that it is important to them.

☆ **Bicycle / Pedestrian Safety** Status quo.

☆ **First Responder Support** A small committee is crafting an article to be published in The Sandpaper as a follow-up to the full-page ad run in August in support of LBI first responders.

☆ **Flooding** The committee is inactive because the chair position is vacant. On the other hand, a list of all known flood mitigation projects on the island is being compiled. That compilation will be sent to all JCTA representatives as soon as it is ready (within the week). Please note that this list is a work in progress and will need to be periodically updated.

☆ **Offshore Wind Farms** The Offshore Wind Farm Round-Up #7 was distributed to all JCTA members on November 14th.

► **A note about the December & January JCTA meetings**

Our next regularly scheduled business meeting is Monday January 9, 2023.

JCTA members will be having our annual holiday get-together in lieu of the December business meeting. For the record, funds for this party do not come from the JCTA coffers. All attendees share equally in the cost of the hors d'oeuvres and pay for their own drinks at the bar.