

## **MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 25, 2019 SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

*Chairman Ken Miller called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM at the Sea Oaks clubhouse.*

*There was a Flag salute and a moment of silence for our military and world peace.*

*Roll call was taken. Board members in attendance were: Ken Miller, Ann Mikos, Linda Cicco, Nancy Cotter, Maryann O'Neill and Richard Dutton. Liaison, Township Mayor Barbara Jo Crea, was also in attendance.*

*Minutes from the October 28, 2019 meeting, having been read, were approved by the Board.*

*The first speaker was Chief Richard J. Buzby, Jr. of the Little Egg Harbor ("LEH") Police Department. He first reported that his Department has continued in its battle against drug dealers and the lines of drug supply and that the Department's Street Crimes Unit, which currently includes three officers with the possibility of a fourth part-time, has had new takedowns every month and is now working more locally than in Atlantic City, where it had formerly concentrated efforts. He said that several recent arrests have involved small-scale offenders and that it is important to stamp out drug crime at any level. He then reported that identity theft continues to be a problem in LEH and warned again about providing personal information to strangers who call, especially those who claim to be from the Internal Revenue Service, which never initiates contact by telephone rather than in writing. He added that the United States Treasury has said that it is going to assume responsibility for many identity theft investigations and if we have a cluster of incidents here in LEH it might become involved.*

*He then turned to the shooting incident of the previous week and reported in detail on what had transpired. It had begun with a traffic stop at Dunkin Donuts at the intersection of Green Street and Route 9 in Tuckerton of a vehicle with Connecticut license plates driven by a woman with a male passenger. They acted nervous and gave conflicting information to the police officer who stopped them and when he became more aggressive they sped away and smashed into another vehicle at Green Street and Third Avenue. The male passenger then got out of the car and shot at the officer, who returned fire, but no one was hit and the gunman fled, first on foot and then riding an adult-sized tricycle he had stolen. At that point the LEH Police, the State Police (with three helicopters in the air and dozens of troopers), the Ocean County Sheriff's Office with its Canine Unit and other law enforcement entities became involved in the search for the gunman, local schools were locked down, and many local residents (who had received an email from Nixle about the incident including a photograph of the gunman fleeing on the tricycle) contributed hundreds of tips. As it turned out, the gunman apparently abandoned the tricycle, hid behind a dumpster in back of the Wawa store at Green Street and Frog Pond Road, and used his cell phone to call an Uber car to pick him up and take him to the railroad station in Union, New Jersey. The Uber driver was a local woman who reported to the Police after dropping the man off and, with the help of the New Jersey Transit Police, he was apprehended in Pennsylvania Station in New York City after arriving there from Union. He had apparently been staying at a hotel in Absecon and it was not clear why he was in this area; he may have fled here from Connecticut. The woman with him was also arrested after initially fleeing from the scene.*

*The next speakers were, once again, James Vaccaro, the President and Chief Executive Officer, and Cathy Franzoni, the Chief Operating Officer, of Manasquan Bank, and Danielle Roselli, the Branch Manager of the new branch of the Bank on Route 9 near Oak Lane in LEH. Mr. Vaccaro*

*again reported that the Bank is a community bank that emphasizes engagement with its customers and is concerned with providing quality products and services. He said that it was founded in 1874 and was determined to be the 43<sup>rd</sup> best bank to work for in the country, out of more than 5,000 banks, and the best in New Jersey. It is a full-service bank that makes both consumer and commercial loans, it is mutually rather than publicly owned and it purchased rather than leased its building in LEH. In addition, it has a charitable foundation that makes grants to organizations in the community.*

*LEH Mayor Barbara Jo Crea then reported that LEH Citizens on Patrol is still looking for volunteers.*

*The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. at the Sunrise Bay clubhouse. All seniors are welcome and urged to attend.*

*The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:55 A.M.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Dutton, Acting Secretary, LEH Senior Citizens' Advisory Board*