

**Wall Republican Club  
Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, January 26, 2010**

1. The meeting was called to order by President, Nick DiRocco, at 7:40 PM, who then led the flag salute.
2. President DiRocco recognized the current & former elected officials present: State Senator Sean Kean, Assemblyman Dave Rible, Mayor George Newberry, Committeemen Jeff Foster & Todd Luttmann, former Mayor Mary Burne, and GOP Municipal Chair Mary DeSarno.
3. President DiRocco requested the Nominating Committee's report, and Chair Jo Schloeder announced the proposed slate of officers for 2010:

Wilma Morrissey, President  
Carleen DeFino, Vice President  
Mary Fran Lane, Treasurer  
Eve Hershkowitz Secretary

The President opened the floor to additional nominations, and being none, nominations were closed. A motion was made by Mary Burne, and seconded by Fred Rummel, that the slate of officers be accepted as proposed. Members voted, with all yeas and no nays.

The newly elected officers were sworn in by State Senator Sean Kean.

4. New President Wilma Morrissey extended her thanks to the Club, and awarded a gift certificate and ring to Nick DiRocco, in appreciation for all his work as Club President the past 2 years. Congratulations were also extended, on his new position as Assistant Vice-President of Employment & Labor Policy, with the NJ Business & Industry Association in Trenton.

5. **Program** - President Morrissey introduced:

- a. **Acting Sheriff Shaun Golden**, who as Undersheriff assumed the position per constitutional law, upon former Sheriff Kim Guadagno's taking office as Lieutenant Governor. He spoke about his career, and being a life-long NJ resident. Formal appointment of a Sheriff by the Governor is anticipated in a few weeks.
- b. **Adam Puharic**, former Monmouth County GOP Chairman, currently with the Danskin-Agency. Mr. Puharic spoke about the Monmouth County Wellness Discount Program, which provides discounts for hearing, vision, dental and prescription expenses. Discount cards for the program were distributed to all attendees.

6. **Updates & Events** – President Morrissey requested the following updates:

- a. **Senator Sean Kean** said he's been hosting a "Salute the Winners" event, for the 25 towns in the 11<sup>th</sup> District, for the past 6 years. This year it will be a brunch held January 31<sup>st</sup>, at The Breakers, and he invited everyone to attend.
- b. **Assemblyman Dave Rible** spoke about being busy as House Minority Whip. He said that Speaker Sheila Oliver (D – East Orange) was taking a step in the right direction, by

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holding open public meetings, with the first being February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the State House in Trenton. He announced that Governor Christie is appointing a liaison to every legislative district office, to improve communications. Assemblyman Rible said that there would be hearings & legislation to restructure and rename COAH (Council on Affordable Housing)

- c. **Mayor George Newberry** said that Governor Christie is assigning liaisons to NJ's towns, to improve direct communications. He mentioned that at a recent meeting, the DEP seems to be taking a more practical attitude towards applications. He also mentioned that a group of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders had questions about environmental issues, and he'd written letters back to them.

He mentioned how wonderful the Explorer Program was, that former Sheriff Guadagno sponsored, and asked that Acting Sheriff Golden continue the program.

Mayor Newberry talked about the "Please Don't Litter" signs, and wanting to do something creative with them.

For the future, he mentioned that nominating residents to Township Boards was a big project with time constraints, and forms to be submitted. Applicants should make sure they identify multiple committees in which they might like to participate, because there just isn't time to have applications redone, if the one committee identified doesn't have a spot available.

- d. **Monmouth County Lincoln Day Dinner** – Mary Fran Lane reminded everyone that the event is Sunday February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Shore Casino in Atlantic Highlands, and that the deadline for submissions to the Ad Journal is next Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Invitation & Ad Journal forms were distributed to all present.
- e. **Mayor's Ball honoring George Newberry** – Municipal Chair Mary DeSarno reported that the event would be at Doolan's in Spring Lake Heights on April 23<sup>rd</sup> this year.

**7. Volunteer Recognition & Town Updates** – President Morrissey wanted to acknowledge the efforts of all Township Board & Committee volunteers, and have them update the Club:

- a. **Planning Board** – Todd Luttmann said that there are only a handful of applications before the Board, probably due to the slow economy, and that a recent meeting had been cancelled.
- b. **Board of Adjustment** – Mary DeSarno said that there are 2 applications for the construction of windmills before the Board, and that they will set a precedent.
- c. **Environmental Committee** – Wilma Morrissey & Ed Loud.
- d. **Community Relations/Community Alliance** – Jo Schloeder explained the purpose as using funds from drug arrests to fund substance abuse prevention education and community service activities, such as a graduation party.
- e. **Senior Citizen Advisory Board** – Mary Burne talked about POW, "Pride of Wall", which meets twice a month.

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- f. **West Belmar Gateway Committee** – Mayor Newberry mentioned that the slow economy is impacting this as well.
- g. **Mobile Home Rent Stabilization & Control Board** – Dave Kayal said that things should be quiet as far as hearings this year, as there's been no change to the CPI (Consumer Price Index).
- h. **Business Development Committee** – Doug Behrens said they had an uphill battle, due to the economy, but said they're considering a "town center" development, and are looking for resident feedback on whether it's necessary or not.

**8. New Business** – President Morrissey made the following announcements about Club programs & requests for feedback from members:

- a. **Membership Dues** - The Club is reviving dues of \$5 per person. Cash cannot be accepted, and checks should either be brought to the next meeting, or mailed to Treasurer Mary Fran Lane at P.O. Box 1492, Wall Township, NJ 07719.
- b. **Donations** – A container will be placed near the refreshments at meetings, to help defray Club expenses.
- c. **Sunshine Club** – The Club would like to start sending get well, condolence & other cards to members when needed. If you know of someone who's ill or lost a family member, please let one of the Officers know. Birthdays may be posted on the Club's website. *As an update, a "Get Well" card was sent the other day to Ann Rembiszewski, mother of Township Committeewoman Anne Marie Conte.*
- d. **Community Service Projects** – Members are requested to think about projects they'd like the Club to sponsor, such as a blood drive, and let one of the Officers know, or mention it at the next meeting.

**9. Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, February 23, 2010  
7:30 pm  
Wexford Assisted Living Facility

**10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM**

Submitted by Eve R. Hershkowitz, Secretary