



Senior Coalition of Berkeley Township  
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**April 3, 2025**  
**Location Silver Ridge Park West**  
**MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by President Signorile. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our active military, especially those on foreign soil

Mike thanked SRP West for hosting today's meeting.

Judi announced that the 2025 Coalition calendars are on the sign in table for anyone who did not receive one.

**Roll Call: Present:** President Signorile, Vice President DeChiaro, Secretary/Treasurer Pakay.  
**HOAs:** HC Carefree, HC South, Holiday Heights, SRP East, SRP North, SRP West, SRP Westerly: Absent; HC West, Sonata Bay

**Acceptance of the Minutes 2/6/25**

- The minutes of the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed to the membership prior to today's meeting. There were no additions or corrections received either by email or from the floor. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The minutes stand as read. There was no meeting in September.

**Acceptance of Financial Report Ending 3/31/25: Judi Pakay**  
**SCofBT Financial Report for Month Ending 3/31/2025**

Opening Balance as of 3/1/2025	\$4,442.22
Revenue Generated	\$0
Interest Earned	\$ 0.07
Expenses Generated	\$0
Closing Balance as of 3/31/2025	<u><b>\$4,442.29</b></u>

The Financial Report ending on 3/31/2025 was forwarded to all members of the Coalition. No additions or corrections were received either by email or from the floor. Therefore, motion was made and seconded to accept. The Treasurer's 3/31/25 Report is filed.

**President's Report**

**Think Energy meetings with Mayor Bacchione:**

- Mike reported at first, he was hesitant, but after hearing the program details at the meeting organized by Mayor Bacchione, he signed up.
- You will need your JCPL bill handy when signing up for the program.
- For enrollment call: 844-870-6437 or <https://get.thinkenergy.com/Berkeley>
- Once your enrollment is accepted a 20% discount will be applied to a portion of your bill.

**Combined Anchor, PTR and Stay meetings with Senator Amato and Mayor Bacchione:**

- Starting this year, homeowners will complete a combined PAS1 book allowing you to file your Anchor, Stay Program and Property Relief all at the same time. These programs are based on the budget allocation.
- 2025 paper checks or direct deposits will go to the homeowner. The goal for 2026 is to eliminate sending checks to the homeowners, but for them to go directly to the Municipal Tax Office. The reason being people are spending the money rather than paying their taxes, which the checks were intended.
- The Office of Senior Services (Hooper Avenue and BT Town Hall) employees will help individuals complete their forms. Appointments are required. The OSS has two mobile units available to help homeowners fill out the forms.

**Veterans Village Groundbreaking – May 7, 2025, at 11:00 am.**

- Berkeley Township is the first in New Jersey to have a Veterans Village. It will be located on Sloops Creek.
- Jim Byrnes, the Mayor and Council have been working hard to get this off the ground.
- Mayor Bacchione mandated the property to be restricted solely for homeless veterans.
- A massive crowd is expected so try and arrive early.

**Corporate Transparency:**

- The Interim Final Decision requires only foreign organizations to file. HOAs are on hold.

**New State Fire Extinguisher Requirement Update:**

- By law NJ no longer requires Fire Extinguishers in single-family homes. However, it also permits each Township to make their own decision. Mike checked with Code Enforcement. BT no longer requires a fire extinguisher. Smoke and Carbon Detectors are a must. Their decision was based on people trying to operate the fire extinguisher rather than calling 911 and leaving the house.

**Vice President's Report- Vince DeChiaro**

- No Report

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report****BT Shredding Program:**

- To be held on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 until Noon at the Public Works Complex, 630 Pinewald Keswick Road. Attachment contains other dates and locations.

**Hospital from Home Program:**

- Silver Ridge Park East forwarded, to Judi, contact information on this program. Judi will try and schedule them for a presentation at a future meeting.

**Open Discussion:**

**ADR Report – Barbara Egner**

- There were several ADR requests. We expect to get busier now that Summer is approaching.
- Carol Hudak complimented Judi on how organized and professional she was during the recent ADR mediation at Holiday Heights.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mike reported that Maria LaFace has been in Washington DC lobbying for money for the senior programs, that the government wants to delete from their budget, such as Wheels on Meals and Transportation. These programs are vital for our seniors, especially our shut-ins. Mike will invite her to our next meeting so she can provide an update.

**Social Security:**

- Residents will need to go in person to make any changes in their SS benefits. SS is no longer making these changes over the telephone.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

Holiday City Berkeley – absent

Holiday City Carefree – no report

Holiday City South – no report

Holiday City West - absent

Holiday Heights – no report

Silver Ridge Park East:

- On 5/28 the Motor Vehicle mobile unit will be at their site. Appointments are made on-line only..

Silver Ridge Park North – no report

Silver Ridge Park West:

- A town hall meeting with Rep Chris Smith will be held on 4/28/25 regarding the intended funding cuts for Meals on Wheels. This meeting is not open to outside communities. However, if there is room, we will let Judi know so she can get the word out to you.

Silver Ridge Park Westerly – no report

Sonata Bay - absent

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:32.

Respectfully submitted,

*Judi Pakay*

Secretary/Treasurer

**Attachments:**

- BT Shredding Program
- Scheduling a Property Tax Relief (PAS1)
- Think Energy Flyer
- Veterans Village Flyer



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**May 1, 2025**

**Location: Holiday City Berkeley**

**A G E N D A**

Call to Order: .

Pledge of Allegiance:

Thank you to our Host:

Roll Call:

Acceptance of the April 3, 2025, Minutes:

Acceptance of the Financial Report ending April 30, 2025:

Special Guest - Office of Senior Services: Maria LaFace.

Special Guest – Provident Bank: Melissa O'Donnel

**President's Report: Mike Signorile**

- PAS-1
- Think Energy
- Robo Cans
- Veterans Village Groundbreaking

**Vice President's Report: Vince DeChiaro**

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Judi Pakay**

**Open Discussion**

ADR – Barbara Egner

Holiday City Berkeley:

Holiday City Carefree:

Holiday Heights:

Silver Ridge Park West:

Silver Ridge Park Westerly:

Sonata Bay:

Adjournment