

**Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee**  
**March 4, 2025 Minutes**

**Attendance:**

**Representatives –Bob O'Brien, Deborah Krause, Marie Sidoti  
Annalyne Burke**

**Alternates –Barbara Kochie, Marilyn Lago, Roseann Brennan, Vincent  
Tyburczy, Jerry Spanola**

**Brick Township – Mayor Lisa Crate  
Councilwoman Heather deJong  
Amy Schmiedeberg, Senior Services**

**Guests: James Riccio, Director of EMS, Bob Scott, Caregiver  
Volunteers**

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**Mayor Crate:**

**Crate Conversations:**

**Charlie Bacon from the Brick Morning Rotary Club highlighted the incredible work the club and its members do to support the community. Mr Bacon shared valuable insights about their Shore Movement Food Collections. It is an ongoing food collection, non-perishable and some perishable items are accepted and delivered to residents in the area. You can reach out to the Brick Morning Rotary Club if you wish to donate. Residents are invited to attend a meeting to learn more about the club. Brick Morning Rotary Club exemplifies the power of community service, demonstrating why Brick Township is such a special place.**

**Ken Malagiere, Executive Director of the Ocean County College Foundation to discuss the foundations vital role in supporting students through scholarships and advancing Ocean County College's mission of providing quality affordable education. This is a good alternative for students heading into college for a 4-year university. Ocean County College has partnered with a lot of**

universities throughout the state and they have a close partnership with Kean University. In the past, you would go to OCC for 2-years to get your Associate's degree, then move on to get your Bachelor's at some other university. Kean now has a building on campus. You can finish your full 4-years at the county college level and receive a university degree.

**Community Policing -** Had D.A.R.E. graduations last month at Veteran's Memorial Elementary, Drum Point Elementary, Osbornville Elementary and Lanes Mill Elementary. In the Spring they will be at the last few elementary schools, graduation will be before the end of school year. The D.A.R.E. program teaches our children how to stand up for yourself, understanding how to deal with bullies, they talk about drugs, vaping, and other products that are out there and are harmful for our children. It also is the first step for our Police Department to connect with the community at the youngest ages and start building a relationship with police officers.

**Juvenile Justice Jeopardy –** This was held at the Brick Township High School. The Mayor participated along with the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office. It taught a lot about different rules that have to do with the juvenile justice system. If pulled over by a police officer how to handle the situation, how should you act with the police officer, items you should have in the car with you. A lot of good information and we are hoping to partner with the prosecutor's office to present this program to the public. I think it's important, if you have kids growing up, that you understand what the process of the juvenile justice system is.

**Brick's 175<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party –** On February 22nd Brick Township celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the annual Brick Birthday Party. There were 250-275 adults/children who attended. Thank you to the vocational school culinary program who supplied the cake. Our Historical Society, Brick Garden Club, our Fire Department, EMS, and Police Department were all there.

**2025 Hero Award - The Mayor's Student Advisory Committee will be presenting the annual Brick Hero Awards on Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> in the Brick Memorial High School auditorium, 2001 Lanes Mill Road. The event starts at 7pm with doors opening at 6:30pm. Tickets are available at the door, \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. The Brick Hero Awards celebrates remarkable individuals and organizations with recipients being recognized in various categories. To nominate someone or for more information contact Brandi White at 732.262.1053**

**County Connection – located in the Ocean County Mall. They are looking to partner with towns to bring their services to the township. We are working on dates, times, events and locations. They are essentially looking to act as a notary, offer passport services, veteran's assistance and senior's assistance. All the services they offer through the County Connection in the mall, they will have available in their mobile unit. We are looking to partner with them for multiple events and to continuously have them available. They are also looking to partner with your senior community and come out to your development as needed. If you have the County come to your community, make sure our Brick Senior Services are there also. To schedule an appointment, you can contact Leyla Wade, Division Director, Ocean Connection at 732.288.7777 or email at [lwade@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:lwade@co.ocean.nj.us) or Kim Saviet Supervisor 732.929.2018, [ksaviet@co.ocean.nj.us](mailto:ksaviet@co.ocean.nj.us)**

**If you're looking to get you Real ID, we are, once again, partnering with DMV to have their mobile unit come out to Town Hall for people to get their Real ID. Once it is confirmed, we will post it online and you can make an appointment.**

**Amy Schmiedeberg:**

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration – Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-2pm**

**Walking Club – Every Friday morning at 8:30am, weather permitting. We meet at the Drum Point Sports Complex by the maintenance building. Call to register.**

**Cooking with Kristen – Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. We will be making a pistachio treat. Call to register.**

**AARP added more appointments for our income tax preparation. There is also a free resource at OCC that is doing free income tax preparation. The only requirement is you do need an email address. We are helping to schedule if you need assistance.**

**Jim Riccio:**

**Background History - Was chief of police for 7 years, served with the Police Department just under 37 years, a fireman for 42 years and is currently Fire Commissioner on the south side of town in District #1**

**EMS used to be under the Police Department but it is now a stand-alone unit and I was asked to oversee it. EMS used to be volunteers but in 2006 the amount of calls received were overwhelming for the volunteers so we started our paid EMS. The volunteers were still helping out the paid EMS but by 2015 it just became way too much for the volunteers. We currently employ approximately 64 EMT's who work 24-7. We are operating out of 3 locations, Civic Plaza, Lanes Mill Road and Aurora Drive. Soon we will be moving the Civic Plaza location into the new building behind Town Hall. This allows us to strategically place ambulances in the south end of town, the center of town and the north end of town which reduces our response time.**

**We also have plans to tear down the firehouse located on the beach, and build an emergency service building that would house police, fire and EMS persons during the summer months.**

**Last year we had over 11,200 calls for service. This year we are on track to even beat that. So far this year we have had 1,800 calls. We perform a lot of training to different organizations, teachers and we**

recently taught boy scouts CPR and how to stop bleeding. Our EMS has grown and has become quite specialized.

**Bob Scott:**

Caregivers now provides 2 rides per month. If you need a ride to a doctors' appointment, call during the week prior to your appointment. We are installing, for free, 40 grab bars per quarter. We are full for this quarter, but we still have 100 grab bars available. Looking for a way to reward our volunteers such as a card saying "I m a volunteer" that offers reduction at various businesses, Mayor Ducey looked into maybe getting he volunteers a property tax break but found out that it isn't legal in New Jersey.

**Marilyn Lago:**

Church of the Visitation, located at 755 Mantoloking Rd., is having a murder mystery titled, "Murder on the Menu" Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Tickets are \$30.00 which includes light refreshments. For more information and tickets, [visitationRCchurch.org/social events](http://visitationRCchurch.org/social%20events) or call 732.475.0048.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Kaczka,  
Secretary

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday April 1st at 11am**

**(Meeting will be held in the A/B Room)**

***Guest Speaker***  
***Elissa Commings, Township Engineer***