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RI TAX COLLECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

Meeting of RITCA was held at Atlantic Beach Club, 55 Purgatory Road, Middletown, R.I. 02842. Meeting opened at 10:25 a.m. by President, David Dolce. Thank you to Lesley Heaton for organizing today's meeting.

**Secretary report-** Jane Steere passed out minutes from May 20, 2009. A motion was made to accept the report as printed, seconded and so voted.

**Treasurer report-** John Ward reported the balance as of May 18, 2009 was \$2732.88, deposits of \$1080.00 were made and there is a balance of \$3812.88 as of September 23, 2009. Motion was made to accept report as stated, seconded and so voted.

**Communications-** Tax Sale Position Letter- Dave passed out a rough draft of the letter that we will send to all representatives and senators, then have the Towns endorse and follow-up with their representatives. Anyone with any suggestions to add to or changes to make please let Dave know.

Paula from Washington Trust would like to host a meeting of the RITCA. This will be given to the new board to schedule.

Dave handed out a Tax Sale Schedule sheet which shows the process followed from beginning to end. This is a good tool to look at and make sure all steps have been followed. Also as a handout from Rhode Island Housing "Madeline Walker Bill Tax Sale Process".

Another handout was the Soldier & Sailors Relief Act-Web Site for Active Duty Soldiers which is DMDC(Department of Defense Manpower Data Center). You can go to this website and enter last- middle- first name, date of birth, and social security number if available. It will then show Beginning date of service, Active duty status and what branch of the service they may be serving in.

**Committee reports-**

**Legislative committee-** John Ward stated that he does not know what issues may be coming up. He thinks that someone from the RI General Assembly should be asking Rhode Island Housing what has been accomplished through the passing of the Madelyn Walker bill. Sending our position letter as a group is the first step, as stated above in communications.

**Education committee-** Nothing to report.

**PROGRAM-**

**RIDMV** not able to attend, but will be emailing updates on the progress and where it stands to date. Peter DeCicco from Opal Data has been communicating with their servers and has been receiving mostly error codes back. He stated that they are supposed to have the last five

addresses stored in their system. We will be able to download an entire file and see who is being held and will be able to set and clear DMV blocks in real time.

**Rossi Law Offices**-Bob Rossi along with Diana Masello and Jennifer Tammelleo attended. Bob has been practicing law for 28 years and 20 of those in debt collection/delinquent taxes. The taxes that they collect do not have liens as real estate tax does and this makes it much harder to collect. Authority to tax and create liens comes solely from the legislature. One of the problems is that some RI General Laws such as 44-5-7, 44-5-8, 44-5-9, 44-5-5 and 44-34-3 contradict one another. A change that needs to be made is to be able to assess a penalty to cover the cost of collection and charge the interest accrued on the tax-in other words a penalty in addition to interest. Another suggestion was to have uniform interest/penalty throughout the state. He also stated that the Towns should be able to get a default judgement not a summary judgement which would give district court exclusive action to deal with these collections and none would be allowed to go to Superior court, which he stated is not the place for debt collection. He also stated that the statute of limitations is 10 years from the issuance of the bill. Bob's presentation was excellent- very interesting and informative. Dave thanked him and his staff for attending.

**Nominating Committee**- put forth a slate of the following to serve until September 2011:

President -	John Ward, Lincoln
Vice President-	Dolores Danusis, Richmond
Secretary-	Jane Steere, Gloucester
Treasurer-	Melinda Boeglin, Westerly
Executive Board-	Joanne Santos, Charlestown Lynette Lucier, Exeter
Membership/banquet Coordinator-	Lesley Heaton

Motion was made to cast one ballot for the slate of officers, seconded and so voted. A big Thank You to Dave Dolce for serving as our President since the inception of the organization two years ago. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m and followed with a buffet lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane A. Steere, Secretary