

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held April 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ann Bolen, President.

Treasurer's Report was given by Jeff Lewis

Total Assets	\$18,175.54
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$18,175.54

The Civic League received \$10,000 from a grant we applied for from the Shoreline Restoration Project which was completed last year. These funds will be used to restore the second part of the project. Additionally, there is \$1,400 in the account for a Jerry Bunting tribute.

A detailed financial statement is available on request of Ann Bolen, President.

Police Report

Officer Fulcher introduced his new Lieutenant, Jason Armstrong, and then reported that our area had 24 reported incidents last month. As usual, most were auto related. There were two robberies, one has been solved and they have a suspect in the second. There were also four larcenies from the same place. Officer Fulcher reminded the membership of a Community Forum meeting on April 9th at 6:30pm, COM STAT meeting on April 11th and the Ocean View Clean-Up on Saturday the 13th. April 27th is drug take back day at the Second Precinct at 10am and two other locations.

In answer to a question from a member: pedestrians do have the right-of-way across Ocean View Avenue. This is a serious problem as few drivers seem to obey this. The member asked if we could get lights near the walkways like the lights they have near Pretlow Library. Both Officer Fulcher and Ann Bolen said they would look into it.

Guest Speaker, Teresa DiRosa, 2020 Census Decennial

Teresa DiRosa outlined the process for the taking of the 2020 Census. The Constitution requires the government to enumerate the number of people living in the United States every 10 years, and to use that data to apportion the seats in Congress among the states. Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, race and other factors. Our community benefits the most when the census counts everyone. When one responds to the census, one helps your community to get its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs. Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories,

offices and stores, and this creates jobs. Developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness. Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.

Ms. DiRosa needs active volunteers to help her gather this data. This is not a political group or endeavor. A year from now the government will send cards out to people in the communities to begin the head count but her group will have to follow up and ascertain if all the cards have been sent in. Volunteers must be 18 years of age and have a car. Pay is \$18 an hour and one sets one's hours. Volunteers also have paid training. This process begins April 1, 2020.

Guest Speaker, Kelly Welsch, Norfolk Botanical Gardens

Ms. Welsch of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens Staff did a wonderful job describing all the beauties of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. She was excited to see how many of our members belong and/or have visited the Gardens in the last year. They have 175 beautiful acres, 7 miles of paved paths and another 7 miles of unpaved paths to explore and 60 named gardens. There are beautiful collections of roses, camellias, crape myrtles and a very popular Butterfly House and a 3-acre Children's Garden. The Botanical Garden is surrounded by water on three sides and they are one of the only Gardens in the Country that you can visit by foot, by boat or by tram. Baker Hall Visitor Center houses their administration, friendly staff, as well as, a gift shop and stopping by there will help one get the most out of your visit. Their theme this year is Coastal Virginia.

On May 17th the Gardens will celebrate *Suds and Buds* from 5:30pm to 9:30pm with proceeds going to the Garden and another charity. The Butterfly House opens in June. Sundays, beginning in June, one can come, have a beer, enjoy live music, and bring your dog. The Gardens sponsor many different types of class where members receive free admission. Check out their website for more information. <https://norfolkbotanicalgarden.org>

Membership: family (6 people) \$100 a year; Military and Senior family membership is \$95 a year, and individual membership is \$60 a year.

Updates

*Community Clean up: For the past 5 years the EOVCL has done a community clean-up in the spring. We partner with *Keep Norfolk Beautiful* and the City Sheriffs Dept. and provide a "Swat Team" approach to litter and trash in our community. We always follow this event with a community picnic. Matt Keane and Ann Marie Dori are looking for a great turnout on April 13th. We will meet here at REC at 9:30am to register and dispatch folks to different areas from 10-12pm. A community picnic will follow the cleanup from 12-1pm. We need a big turnout

so please come out to help. Volunteer sheets are available for children who need them for school but students need to be accompanied by an adult. Please join us for a few hours.

*Norfolk Parks and Recreation updates: With the merging of the Senior Center and the REC Center, a few people have inquired as to how the summer program will work. Ann Bolen, President, reached out to Darryl Crittendon from the City who had his managers provide a report to share with the community. Per Mr. James Mickle, the summer REC program will be held here at EOV Rec Ctr. This decision was made because of the kayaks, fishing pier, and beach access as well as the reading program that was started last year. Several field trips for the seniors and youth have been scheduled to provide extended usage of the facility for each group during peak times. Norfolk Park Rangers will increase the outdoor STEM programming and Norfolk Lifeguards will increase paddling to provide more outdoor time for the children. The ultimate goal is to implement intergenerational programs that will allow the senior population to share wisdom and experience with the youth through mixed programming.

*Per Jason Baines, RPOS submitted an application for a Community Block Grant to construct a new basketball court at East Ocean View. We are awaiting news to ascertain if the funds were awarded. The area of the targeted site is the swing set area. Future evaluation and professional design is needed if the grant funds are awarded. The city would relocate the swing set and the project will require the removal of some trees. I would not expect to see this basketball court until 2020 at the earliest.

*Tides Ball Field Grant. East Ocean View won a competition based upon the most votes cast for EOV to have our ball field redone by the Norfolk Tides. In January, The Norfolk Tides announced the return of The Youth Field Makeover Project presented by Orkin, a contest in which a local youth field will be renovated by Tides groundskeepers and their front office staff. This field makeover will include an upgrade to the playing surface, an improvement to existing dugouts, and pest prevention services courtesy of Orkin. The recipient of the makeover was determined by a fan vote on the Tides Facebook page in late February. RPOS and the Tides are working on the plans now and Coach Dwight and the teams are excited to see the new ball field.

*Community Egg Hunt: We have been asked to promote a community egg hunt to be held at Little Creek Elementary School on April 20th.

*Ann Bolen, President, stated how generous Civic League members have always been and asked if we would support sponsoring some children to participate in the summer program at Rec. Our Civic League budget does not have unbudgeted funds to do so but Ms. Juanita Snead wished to put the idea out there in case some members wanted to create a scholarship or two to allow some children who could not pay to participate in the summer program. If you are willing to sponsor a child this summer, please see Ms. Dana, head of our REC center.

*We hope there was a large turnout for the Beer Bus last Saturday, April 6th. It was a fundraiser for Autism research and should have been a lot of fun. The bus took everyone to 3 breweries and returned by 5pm.

*The Senior Center was offering Bridge Lessons here at REC from April 4-May 23rd but it seems only one person showed up. They are going to re-offer the lessons this summer in hopes some more people might join in then. So stay tuned.

*Last but not least, Ann Bolen, President, is working to get trash cans placed throughout our community. She identified resources to supply the cans, but each can needs to be adopted by a community member meaning that person would have to be willing to empty the contents of said can into their own trash receptacle each week as a special pickup is not an option right now. One would also need to supply the garbage bag for the can. If you see a need for a can in your area and are interested in a partnership, please reach out to Ann Bolen. We have the option of trash cans at bus stops on Ocean View Avenue and 5 within the community but each would also need a sponsor to sign an agreement to care for their can.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Please check our website regularly (www.livingeov.com) for information about our area and what is occurring here.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Freeman, Secretary