

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held March 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Steve Chamberlain, Vice President (President Ann Bolen is out of town.)

Steve welcomed everyone to a well attended meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Jeff Lewis

Total Assets	\$17,760.50
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$17,760.50

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 reported that our area had 16 reported incidents last month. There were five aggravated assaults (3 arrests were made), 1 attempted burglary, and 6 larcenies from autos. The police also targeted speeding on Pretty Lake Avenue and wrote many tickets.

Officer Fulcher reported that the game, *Cops with Kids*, on February 28th, was a great success and he was very proud of the trophy the police took home. There was plenty of pizza and cake afterwards.

### **Ocean View Advisory Committee Meeting**

Steve Chamberlain reported that he attended the OV Advisory Committee Meeting on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> and gave a summary of the items discussed:

\*Festevents- a tentative schedule for Thank Goodness its Ocean View Friday events was provided. Final calendar will be put on the website. CREW sponsorship for this event is on the website as well. City looking into a shuttle bus between OV Park and OV Elem School for additional parking.

\*New playground being designed for Community Beach Park to separate younger and older children. There will be a full size basketball court as well. Hope it is all done by Memorial weekend.

**\*Economic Development:**

- a) Karla's Beach House- (formally Razzos) will serve Breakfast, lunch and dinner
- b) OV Diner will stay in business but is moving to a new undisclosed location. City plans to bulldoze current building and Beach Pub simultaneously.
- c) 27 new business licenses approved between Jan. 2018 and Jan 2019 for OV.
- d) Pinewell Station Apartments - demo is complete on Senior Center
- e) Shore Drive and Little Creek intersection to be reworked – a VDOT project
- f) 9<sup>th</sup> Bay beach access under construction with completion April 2019
- g) Bay Pointe Drive will have an accessible ramp to the beach- underway

**Guest Speaker, Delegate Chris Stolle M.D.**

Delegate Stolle serves on the Appropriations Committee and the Health Committee in the General Assembly. He commented on how pleased he was to be invited to speak at our meeting and he reported that the Virginia General Assembly finished its session a week ago last Sunday. The Assembly passed over 200 pieces of legislation in one day. Among the bills he mentioned: his bill would raise the legal smoking age from 18 years to 21 years of age. He, as a medical doctor, is very concerned about the new Vape smoking craze as people, especially students are getting addicted to nicotine again. He reported that Virginia benefitted from the one billion dollar federal tax cut and that the General Assembly voted to refund their share of this money to the citizens. They decided the best way will be to send checks to the citizens. He reported that the checks will arrive in the September/October time frame. Other legislation: the Assembly voted to raise the standardized tax exemption; gave a 5% pay increase for teachers; and lowered the eviction rate and laws ruling evictions.

Delegate Stolle said he preferred answering questions from the floor rather than giving a speech and so he opened the floor for questions. His answers are reflected below:

\*Police can legally ticket you, without stopping you, only in work zones. This is for safety reasons and not to increase accidents in these zones. There is a fine but no points.

\*The bill on Opioids passed so legislation can get the problem under control, especially with physicians. The problem is that people switch from opioids to heroin. We need adequate treatment programs.

\* Changes in Medicaid have helped legislators to work on mental health issues. We are trying to move in the right direction. Many people with problems end up in jail but they need transition programs to avoid homelessness.

\*Can we decriminalize cannabis? Norfolk is no longer going to prosecute these charges but there is push back. As to his own thoughts, he says the jury is still out.

\*Virginia is not going to ratify the Equal Rights Amendments because it is tied to abortion. Discussion on the Federal level is needed.

\*Wonderful economic news for the area - the terminal for the International Continental Cable will be coming to Virginia Beach.

\*Redistricting is coming. Guidelines are still uncertain.

\*There will be a primary in June.

### **Guest Speaker, Michael Berlucci, Chrysler Museum Community Engagement Manager**

Mr. Berlucci spoke to our members about what a wonderful experience and resource the Chrysler Museum is to our community. It continues to expand and diversify. It is a free and welcoming experience.

The Chrysler began as a museum in 1933 but did not become world class until Walter Chrysler decided to endow and sponsor its collections. Chrysler gave his own extensive entire collection from Provincetown, MA to Norfolk. He had a limitless budget. The actual building is owned by the City of Norfolk and the City supports 1/3 of their budget. They have special exhibits all year long. In June the children's author/artist Eric Carl will be featured and the architecture of Thomas Jefferson is coming.

The glass portion of the museum is a must see. From the process of glass making to the display in the main museum.

### **Updates**

\*Community Clean up: For the past 5 years the EOVCCL 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 is looking for a volunteer or 2 to help with this event. Please contact Ann Bolen or Matt if you are willing to help out.

\* The Civic League is working to get trash cans placed throughout our community. Ann Bolen, President, has identified resources to supply the cans, but each can needs to be adopted by a community member who would be willing to empty it into their own trash receptacle each week as a special pickup is not an option right now. If you see a need for a can in your area and are interested in a partnership, please reach out to Ann Bolen. She can give you further details. We have the option of placing them at bus stops on OV Ave and 5 within the community but each would need a sponsor.

\*There will be a discussion at Pretlow Library March 11 6-7:30 regarding what to do with the old Greenies site. Please attend and let your voice be heard if you have strong ideas.

\*Last month we heard about the BREW Bus! It raises money for Autism Research at EVMS by taking folks on a Craft Brew tour. We will have a bus on APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> parked at Max's place but signups are needed soon for the discounted rate. I have posted all the information on the website and a few fliers are in the back.

\*The Senior Center is going to offer Bridge Lessons here at REC from April 4-May 23<sup>rd</sup>. They will play every Thursday 10-noon at the REC Center.

\*TGOV (Friday Concert Series) is launching its 2019 schedule. See the website to sponsor or learn more.

\*Ann Bolen, President, wishes to thank Chalice Christian Church as they have agreed to help us with the Newcomer Packet project. They will deliver packets to new households starting in May. We also have some dedicated Board members who are pulling together a Restaurant Guide for the restaurants in our area. If any business wishes to place info in these newcomer packets, about 200 are distributed annually and you can see Ann Bolen about getting your materials into the packets.

The Sheriff was present at our meeting and made an announcement advising our members to be aware of scams. Currently, there is a scam calling you, saying they are from the Sheriff's Office, and if you do not get money to them immediately, you will receive an exorbitant fine. This is a SCAM!

Additionally, if you get a call one of your grandchildren is in deep trouble and needs you to get money to them asap, HANG UP.

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

The newest newsletter is on the back table, please take a copy and please check our website regularly ([www.livingeov.com](http://www.livingeov.com)) for information about our area and what is occurring here.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Freeman, Secretary