

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held November 7, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ann Bolen, Vice President, as John Greene, President, was not able to attend.

Treasurer's Report was given by Jeffrey Lewis:

Total Assets	\$4,594.11
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$4, 594.11
Net Income	-\$150.78
License Plate Account	\$850.39

A detailed financial statement is available on request of John Greene, President.

Note: as a result of the Membership Social held last month we had 32 families renew their membership in the Civic League, 25 new families joined, and 35 EOV stickers were sold.

Police Report

Officers Snyder and Folscher were present. Officer Snyder reported that our area had 27 reported incidents, of which 24 were property crimes, and seven arrests connected with these incidents. These are the same statistics as last month. He reported that, around the Holidays, the police have some extra funds and will be able to monitor local shopping centers on a part-time capacity from 6PM to 10PM beginning the day after Thanksgiving. He also stated the police do *not* mind escorting you to your cars, so don't hesitate to ask. He urged shoppers to be attentive and shop in numbers.

Additionally, and in response to questions from the membership, Officer Snyder reported on the shooting in the Mona Lisa parking lot recently. The shooting occurred at 1:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, October 20th. Two men who had been in *Mona Lisa's* earlier got into an argument and one shot the other in the parking lot area. Both men are well known to the local police. The shooter turned himself in and is in custody. A member brought a copy of the police report and, after reading it, wanted the Civic League to mount a campaign to change the operating hours of *Mona Lisa Pizza* and *AJ Gators*. There was no response from the members. Another member asked Officer Snyder if he should check in with the police if he was going to be out of town for an extended period of time. The answer was yes; call **664-6900**, give them your address, answer a few questions and you will go on a police watch list and be checked on a daily basis.

Speaker: Sylvia Lewis, Resource Parent Recruiter, United Methodist Family Services

Ms. Lewis specializes in dealing with children in crisis situations and finding safe homes for them. She underscored how one person can make a difference in a child's life. The hardest children to place are 11 to

17 years old as they have been in the foster system a long time. They urgently need to have families step up and make a difference.

Speaker: David Speer, City Engineer, Pump Station Upgrade

Mr. Speer reported on the progress of the Pump Station and that the next part of the process will be installing new water and sewer pipes from 11th Bay Street to 30th Bay Street as the old ones are made of clay and are brittle [Note: 1st Bay Street through 10th Bay Street are served by a different Pump Station and no work is planned on them]. They have bid out the work and it will take 6 to 7 months to complete. As for the new Pump Station, the brick work is almost done and once they get the roof on it they will put in the electric systems.

There was a question from the floor as to water flowing into and out of the storm drains, and the concern that flooding occurs when the drains are blocked. This is not part of Mr. Speers' department but he believes John Keifer is working on plans to alleviate some of the problems that involve a levee to deal with back flow. [Note: Subsequently, Mr. John White, Dept of Public Works, provided the following: "[Public Works is the project coordinator for a Section 205 Continuing Authorities Project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District. The project will involve installation of a wall, gate and pumping station at the Shore Drive Bridge. The project is proceeding to a cost share agreement stage, which is currently under review by the City. Once the agreement is executed, the Norfolk District will begin feasibility studies and preliminary design of the coastal flood protection project. The Corps is currently planning a visit to the Ghent civic league to discuss a similar project on The Hague. We can discuss their abilities to attend the EOV CL also. Thanks, JMW](#)"]

We thank John Prewitt, Chair of the Election Committee, for heading up this process. John Greene wants to urge the membership to please consider becoming a member of the Board. We need new members and will very likely have significant turnover a year from now.

Old Business

The Southside Rec Center hosted the Norfolk City Expo at the new Aquatic Center on Campostella Road last month and several of our Board members attended and manned our Civic League booth. The Aquatic Center is state of the art and only costs \$2/visit, or \$20/year, although you have to travel a bit to get there.

Our Civic League Board annual election will be held next month. Officers serve a one year term and board members serve two year terms. The Board Officers and 5 of the 8 Board Directors are up for election. All members who have paid their annual dues and have belonged for more than a month are eligible to vote. Present Officers holding the posts and up for election in 2014—John Greene, President; Ann Bolen, Vice President; Jeff Lewis, Treasurer; and Ann Freeman, Secretary—have have agreed to serve an additional one year term. Board Directors at Large up for two-year election are: Mike Joyner, Juanita Snead, Steve Van Leeuwen, Willie Smith, and Jim Casey. It was asked if there were any nominations from the floor and there were not. There was a motion to ask members to accept this slate of candidates the motion was made and accepted.

Living EOV bumper stickers are still being sold for \$1.00 apiece.

New Business

Ann Bolen announced that our Rec Center has a new Director, Ms. Dana Andrews, who comes to us from Ingleside Rec Center. She is making a nice impact. She requested, and the Civic League Board approved, a \$100 donation to help with the Rec Center Halloween party.

Pastor Rodney Hammonds of the New Life Christian Center made a presentation and request for donations for their annual Thanksgiving meal. For the past 27 years they have been feeding approximately 400 people on Thanksgiving Day. Additionally, they prepare about 50 baskets for people who prefer to make their own meal at home. The Civic League will make a \$300 donation and individual contributions can be made to The Store House.

Under the leadership of Tommy Smigiel, there was a Ward 5 Advisory meeting attended by different representatives throughout the community. Attendees could not be members of a Civic League or Home Owners Assn. Steve Anderson, the City's new Development Director, spoke. [Note: He will be our primary speaker at our December meeting]. He is very interested in bringing new businesses to Norfolk. Steve now lives in East Beach.

There may be a branch of the *Cook-Out Restaurant* on Little Creek Road. They are looking for a suitable place. There is also an interest in building an organic store in our area. There is still talk about developing the area at the entrance to East Ocean View but there are no concrete plans right now.

Both *Target* and *Sam's Club* are interested in the old *K-Mart* location on Little Creek Road.

Calvary Baptist School on Little Creek may become the new school for Norfolk students who have dropped out or are too old for a particular grade similar to the Renaissance Academy in Virginia Beach.

We are bringing back a Code Enforcement Initiative and it will be headed by Amanda Skupin, a Board Member. She needs 5 volunteers for this project to go forward.

Since State Sen. Ralph Northam won the Lt. Governor election for the State of Virginia, there will be a special election to replace his 6th District position. There will be a Democratic Primary, Saturday, Nov. 16th from 10AM to 2PM at Granby HS. We had two of the Democratic candidates make a presentation to the membership: Ms. Paula Miller, former delegate to the House of Representatives from this area for 7 years until her position was redistricted and the position went to Northern Virginia; and Ms. Andrea McClennan who is Ralph Northam's Campaign Treasurer. Both candidates ask our support and to show up on the 16th to vote in the Primary.

Bon Secours Healthy Communities hosted a Summit in October, whose purpose was to identify issues needing to be addressed in our area. Although a person has been named to head each issue, 5 more people are needed for each area. Six priorities were identified:

*Rec Center and surrounding sports fields (Coach Dwight will head this group);

- *Entrance to East Ocean View (Amanda Skupin will head this group);
- *Job Creation (Ray Ransom, our City liaison, will head this group);
- *Basketball Court in Bay Oaks Park (Pastor Rodney Hammonds will head this group);
- *The Community Garden (Steve Zollos will head this committee);
- *9th Bay Project (Bill Willis will head this project).

If you are interested in helping with any of these projects, please e-mail John Greene.

Our next meeting will be December 5th at the East Ocean View Recreation Center at 7PM. Our speaker will be Mr. Steven Anderson, Director of Development, City of Norfolk.

A motion was made, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Freeman, Secretary