

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held December 5, 2013

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

Treasurer's Report was given by Jeffrey Lewis:

Total Assets	\$3,964.11
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$3,964.11
Net Income	-\$230.00

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

Police Report

Officer John Folscher spoke and noted our area had 14 reported incidents last month. A member stated there were several gun shots on 19th Bay between 10pm and midnight a few nights ago. Apparently this is a common occurrence in this area. There is also a spot on 10th Bay and Pleasant Avenue the police are checking because of possible drug activity. He also reported there is a man and his son who are homeless and living in their car in a nearby shopping center but the people who manage the mall do not mind.

Officer Folscher reminds us that, around the Holidays, the police will be monitoring local shopping centers on a part-time capacity from 6PM to 10PM from the day after Thanksgiving. They do not mind escorting you to your cars so don't hesitate to ask! He urged shoppers to be attentive and shop in numbers.

Speaker: Steve Anderson, Director of Development, City of Norfolk

Mr. Anderson, who has been in Norfolk for only 90 days, comes to us from St. Mary's County, in Maryland. He is a lawyer with 13-14 years experience practicing law, and then switched to economic development. His focus is to change the culture here to attract more businesses to the City. He pledges he will be more aggressive in bringing jobs to the area and new businesses. He reports that the City of Norfolk is trying hard. He has raised over \$5B in other areas and feels he can make a difference here.

He noted the Council's focus on Waterside redevelopment; a new Hilton Conference Center that will be large and beautiful; and studying the potential of development around the Harbor. Projects in the works include a Granby Street zone, technology emphasis, and neighborhood developments.

In Ocean View, the City is in negotiations over the old Ramada Inn site for potential development. Issues with the Navy must be settled first, however. The City is planning to build high end houses around Bay Oaks Park. He realizes there is a flooding issue with this area.

Mr. Anderson asked for input/questions from the members from the floor. These included: lots of studies have been done in this area that seem to have gone nowhere; EOV doesn't seem to be included in City planning; and the City neglects 1st Bay through 25th Bay streets. Mr. Anderson was very positive about East Ocean View and pledges to keep us in the focus as he works on developing the City of Norfolk.

Introductions

Ms. Dana Andrews, our Rec. Ctr. Director, was introduced, thanked us for our donations to their Halloween party, and asked for help with their Christmas program, *Cookies with Santa*, on Monday, December 23rd from Noon to 4pm. At the Board meeting last week, it was agreed that we would give the Rec Center \$300 towards food and presents and we would also pass the hat for additional funds. Checks should be made out to EOV Advisory Board. **(NOTE: the membership also donated \$211 through a "free-will offering," which will be divided evenly between the Rec Center and NLCC for Christmas presents).**

Coach Dwight, Director, EOVBAA, also spoke to the members. He is also one of the leads from the Bon Secours Summit and he is forming a committee to explore new ideas about how to help the recreational community. Coach is looking for two volunteers for this committee and, if interested, call him at 737-8714. He also reported that they have 5 indoor soccer teams and the program is going well. They are also supporting a Senior Olympic team. Participants must be 51 years and above and there are many opportunities to participate. Please call him if you would like to be an 'Olympian.' He also stated there will be another "Boot Camp" in the Spring.

Old Business

Our Civic League Board annual election was held. Officers serve a one-year term and Director-at-Large members serve two-year terms. The Board Officers and five of the eight Directors were up for election. Current members holding the posts and up for re-election were: John Greene, President; Ann Bolen, Vice President; Jeff Lewis, Treasurer; and Ann Freeman, Secretary. Board Directors elected were: Mike Joyner, Juanita Snead, Steve Van Leeuwen, Willie Smith, and Jim Casey. Mike was the only new member. There was a motion to ask members to accept this slate of candidates for another year in office. The motion was made and accepted unanimously.

Additionally, Bon Secours Healthy Communities has an active outreach program in the Community. As such, there was a "Summit" earlier this fall to identify the issues needing to be addressed in our area. Although a person has been named to head each issue, 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 Skuppin will head this group
- Job Creation; Ray Ransome from the City will head this group, we need a volunteer from the Civic League to work with him
- Basketball Court in Bay Oaks Park; Pastor Rodney Hammonds will head this group
- The Community Garden; Steve Zollas 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.

New Business

On Dec. 14th at 1pm, *Habitat for Humanity* will dedicate the two new homes they built on 15th Bay Street. Please welcome these two new families to the area.

Also on Dec. 14th from 2 pm to 5pm there will be a celebration of *Christmas with Santa* at the Community Gardens. Santa will be there as well as the Polar Express ride. There will be 2 trees and prizes for attendees. Deborah Lutz is in charge (**NOTE—this was postponed in anticipation of inclement weather; it has been rescheduled to the 21st from 2-5).**

NLCC Christmas Gift Wrapping is on December 15th at 6:00 p.m.

Our next meeting will be January 2nd at the East Ocean View Recreation Center at 7PM. Our speaker will be Tommy Smigiel, City Councilman, who will also install the Board for 2014.

A motion was made, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ann M. Freeman, Secretary