

East Ocean View Civic League

Minutes of meeting held December 1, 2016

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

Treasurer's Report was given by John Greene; Jeff Lewis was out of town:

Total Assets	\$2335.67
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$2336.67

It was noted that the Board approved \$600 each for the EOV Rec Center and the NLCC for Christmas gifts. A detailed financial statement is available on request of John Greene, President.

Police Report

Officer Chris Allen reported that there had been thirty incident reported in our area last month, as contrasted with 29 this period in 2015. Car larcenies were down, versus burglaries, which were up over last year. There were two stolen cars, one of which was unlocked with a spare key inside! All were admonished to lock all doors and keep valuables out of sight. Also to NOT put gift boxes on curbs; that tells "porch pirates" you just got high-value items for Christmas!

East Ocean View Board of Directors Elections

Pursuant to the slate of candidates for Board of Director positions approved in November, the following were voted on and approved unanimously for 2017 (Officers of the Board are elected to a year term and the Board members are elected to two year terms with four members being elected on alternate years):

President: Ann Bolen
Vice President: Steve Chamberlain
Treasurer: Jeff Lewis
Secretary: Ann Freeman

Board of Directors: Jimmy Carter, Alice Webley, Dave Moore, John Hadfield (Michael Phelps, Deborah Lutz, Scott Berry and Juanita Snead will be serving the second year of their term and, thus, were not voted on)

Guest Speaker: Councilman Tommy Smigiel

Councilman Smigiel addressed 3 areas: his time on Council, the budget, and our area. First, he said he was beginning his 7th year on Council and is now the 3rd most senior member! He also suggested inviting Mayor Alexander to a Civic League meeting as he's now been to the area more times than his predecessor! Second, he said most of the City's budget goes toward salaries, with City services next, and there's not much "cash," which is impacted by State budget cuts and lost tax revenues. There's still \$200K left for infrastructure and \$200K, now spent, on speed

reduction measures, which is “insufficient for what we want to do,” thus the impetus for further economic development (e.g., the Outlet Mall, which will bring in \$3.5M in revenues/year, and Ikea, which should generate \$38M in tax revenues over 15 years). The additional revenue will allow for additional projects. Third, he said that, in terms of our area, “the relatively high East Beach median income will not alone attract a Trader Joes. It’s 50% water if you draw a circle.” There is a Kroger Marketplace going in on Little Creek Road; a Leidl on Military Highway; a “homegrown” grocery possible at East Beach; a Dollar Tree (a “national retailer”) to John Mair’s shopping center. There is also a “Letter of Intent” that’s been submitted (by EDC Homes) to purchase the property adjacent to the 7-11 at Pleasant and Shore Drive, that will be discussed further by the Board and Civic League in January/February. There’s also \$900K allocated to the next phase of Bay Oaks Park upgrade, with the NRHA site plan for the homes approved soon. A lien has been placed on the Amstar Motel site for \$215K, which means the owner, who wishes to redevelop, cannot until the lien is paid. Zoning restrictions and flood mitigation measures may make that impossible anyway. Albie Viola, developing Coastal Villas, is moving onto the second phase; he will also be developing Harbor Village, adjacent to Harbor Walk. Buddy Gadams will be rehabbing the Blue Crab, and Vince Rehorn may be moving his brew pub there he had indicated an interest in moving to the now-vacant mattress store. Last, he mentioned a possible “T.I.F.,” or tax incremental funding, directed at funding infrastructure improvements for our area; this is largely to be determined. The bottom line: “Celebrate the good things happening!”

In response to a question from Frank Johnson about “the seemingly excessive cost” of curbs, gutters and sidewalks, Tommy said he would have Public Works provide data as to the costs. Most present acknowledged they c/should have been done in conjunction with sewer upgrades.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Gabriel Phelps, City of Norfolk Public Works

Mr. Phelps said Phase 3 of Pleasant Avenue upgrade that was completed recently should last “for over 100 years!” Phase 4 will begin in February, from 17th Bay – 11th Bay Street. The work should last “about a year, but the pipe is smaller and they shouldn’t have to dig as deep so the work should go quicker.”

There was an issue raised about a “sink hole” at the intersection of 12th Bay Street and Pleasant and Mr. Phelps said he would look into it.

Old Business

Please remember, there will be “Christmas in the Garden” at the Community Garden at 18th and Pleasant on December 3rd, from 10-1. Please come by. The Rec Center is also having “Cookies with Santa” on 17 December from 12-2.

New Business

Tommy also mentioned an “Economic Development Town Hall at Crossroads Elementary on Dec 8th beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss possibilities for this area.

John Greene will serve as Vice Chair of the recently-appointed Norfolk Coastal management and Review Board, along with Don Musacchio, the Willoughby CL President, as Chair. The Board will be reviewing requests for dune modifications, the budget for that and other dune-related issues, and keep people informed at the Civic League meeting.

John Greene offered some concluding remarks at the end of his 5 years as President, and thanked Ann Bolen, incoming President, and Steve Chamberlain, incoming VP, for their work and “stepping up.”

Our speakers next month will be Delegate Chris Stolle, to swear in the Board, and Dr. Michelle Covi, ODU, in January.

Please check our website regularly for information about our area and what is occurring here.

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

Submitted by,

John M. Greene, Jr., President