

Chesapeake Beach Civic League General Meeting

August 20, 2018

President TJ Morgan opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Jeff Waller and Mike Mundy, City Engineers, spoke about storm water issues in the Chesapeake Beach area. They explained the City's process, and they noted data collection efforts to update information from the 1990s Plan. As the City searches for solutions to problem areas, Mr. Waller encouraged neighborhoods to work together as everything is connected to everything else. One solution in one area will have impact on other areas. The engineers encouraged residents to send in pictures taken by mailboxes and other structures that would give a sense of dimension of the problem. The phone number to request assistance is 385-1470. The Clerk at that number will complete a work request. In closing, Mr. Waller explained that the 100-year storm is now a 30-year storm, as intensities are getting higher. Sea level studies are underway. People need to be proactive, creating peer pressure to keep ditches clear and other measures to mitigate problems.

Officer Mike Geluso reported a big improvement on the beach with respect to alcohol use and dog violations. He saw an uptick this past week regarding dogs on the beach during hours not approved for their use. Officer Geluso noted one fight between visitors and locals. In the end, no charges were pressed. Officer Geluso encouraged people who are kicked, hit, etc., to press charges. The Police can then deal with the issue.

Some 200 parking tickets have been issued, and five cars towed. There has been a larceny on Oceanview. Police are working with the situation of homeless people camping under the bridge. Additionally, Officer Geluso has been working to improve signage by seeing that overgrowth has been trimmed. Specifically, he is working on signage related to no parking areas and entrances to the beach.

Officer Geluso hopes to return to this assignment next summer. He will continue to attend Civic League meetings this winter. He can be reached at 385-2703 or mgeluso@vbgov.com. If you wish to express appreciation for the work accomplished this summer, please contact Captain J.T. Orr.

Tanya Barnes, member of the Chesapeake Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, announced a new effort to alert authorities to the location of people with special needs, in the case of an emergency evacuation. Residents needing such assistance are asked to complete a form. This information is protected by HIPPA. Forms are available at the Station or at the Civic League website. For more information, please contact Tanya Barnes at tearebee757.tb@gmail.com or ww.res.cue.com. The telephone number is 757-748-2957.

On behalf of the Civic League, President TJ Morgan presented a check for \$1000.00 to Tanya for the Chesapeake Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad.

The minutes of the July 16, 2018 General Meeting were unanimously approved, with the correction of one typo. These minutes can be found at the Chesapeake Beach Civic League website.

Curtis Bailey gave the Bayfront Advisory Commission Report. The City projects the completion of Lesner Bridge by August 30, 2018.

Wende Wiles gave the August Treasurer's Report. The League currently has the following Bank Balances:

Business Checking: \$16,985.54

Business Market Rate Savings: \$11,727.26

Time Account: \$0 (merged)

Charlee Gowin thanked Civic League sponsors. She thanked Mollie Byers for her generous contribution of a cake for the raffle drawing and for the wonderful cupcakes, etc. Mollie brought for the membership to enjoy. Many people asked for Mollie's business card at the end of the meeting!

Bruce Husselbee scheduled a Clean-Up for Saturday, September 22, at 9:00 am. Volunteers are needed and will meet at the corner of Pleasure House Road and Lookout Road. Volunteers should bring gloves.

Cami Best-Jones thanked the 70 people in attendance. She drew the winning raffle ticket, a ticket belonging to Jim Woodlee.

Becky Bump reported that items for the Fall season have been ordered and will soon be available at Junior Market.

TJ Morgan read a report from Jenny Williams concerning National Night Out. Despite the turn in the weather, the turnout was quite good with many organizations participating.

Curtis Bailey gave a brief update from the Parks and Lakes Committee. Lake Joyce is in great shape, while others are being kept low.

Please let Melissa Griffith know if you are not receiving the Newsletter.

Becky Bump and Michele Zimmerman, the Recurrent Flooding Committee, gave a report that underscored the message from the City Engineers by reminding the group that everything is connected to everything else, and Mother Nature always wins.

Wally Damon and Michele Zimmerman, Shore Drive Community Coalition Liaisons, indicated that Ocean Park residents are opposing a permanent wharf following the completion of Lesner Bridge. They are opposed for many reasons including environmental ones, as well as the unsightly nature of the wharf itself.

Wally Damon reported that as of June the ridership numbers for the trolley increased by 6000.

Under Old Business, TJ Morgan noted a 2016 vote of the Chesapeake Beach Civic League opposing short-term rentals. He further stated it is the League's policy to remain neutral in political matters.

Kathy Damon provided a report on the status of the short-term rental issue at the City Council level. A brief report is attached. The matter will be discussed in an open meeting on August 21, 2018 at 2:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned 8:45 pm.