

# Chesapeake Colony Civic League Meeting

October 7, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm at the Foundry United Methodist Church by President Steve Vigus. There were 16 residents present and Stephen Johnston, Virginia Beach City Council candidate in the November election.

**Secretary's Report:** Reading of the minutes from 6-17-14 was waived and approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:** April Brown said 145 residents have paid their 2014 dues. One was pro-rated @ \$16.50, 2 paid 2013 and 1 paid 2015. She stated that normally more people have paid their dues by this time. She is planning on sending out another dues notice. She also noted that we were over budget for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July party. Budget was approved as presented.

Checking account balance:	\$6,797.17
Savings account balance:	\$4,412.85 (interest accrued)
Scholarship fund:	\$2,071.22

## Committee Reports:

- **Security** – There have been missing and found dogs.
- **Website** – No report
- **Garden Club/Colony Beautification** – See below in old business.
- **Council of Civic Organizations** – No report.
- **Welcome Committee**- One new family has moved into the neighborhood and still needs to be welcomed.
- **4<sup>th</sup> of July** – The party was over budget and we had too much food leftover. The leftover food was donated to the Seton House. Nancy May suggested that there be one volunteer in charge of the parade set up/judging and another volunteer in charge of food/volunteers at the front. She said it was too difficult to do both at the same time. The board will work on fine tuning how the parade is set up. The officer that was hired to manage traffic did a great job and stayed until the party was over. There was a request that the playing of the National Anthem and saying of the Pledge of Allegiance continues. There were donations equaling \$1206.66 made during the party. Overall, it was a great time and the new additions for the party were well received.
- **Dredging** – The project should be on schedule. However, the city engineers have a meeting with the wetlands board in October to work out some details regarding costs. The key issue is the additional \$7 per square foot the city Wetlands Board charges to mitigate the impact of dredging on non-vegetated wetlands. There are options to deal with these charges, but they will take extra time to implement. If a solution can be reached at that time, the project will move ahead as planned. If not, the project will be delayed.
- **Newsletter** – Stephanie Mayo is the new newsletter editor. April and BJ got 3 advertisers for the newsletter. We haven't had to use our newsletter budget because the advertisers' fees have covered the cost of printing. We have even made a little money.

- **Halloween** – Steve Vigus is in charge of the Halloween party. People who have volunteered so far are April Brown, Ed Lizak, BJ & Carol Taylor, Jennifer Coleman, Betsy McEnroe, and Kevin Duffin. Jennifer and Betsy will be in charge of the drinks table. Kevin will be the event emcee. April said she will talk to Floyd about the trailer. Cooks and servers are needed.

### **Old Business:**

- Muddy entrance will be carried forward and addressed with front entrance changes/updates.
- Front entrance —There have been meetings regarding updating the front entrance signs/area. Steve presented a photo of our entrance and two other neighborhood entrances. He said if we decide to change anything, there will be a cost associated with it. The changes would have to be paid for with donations from our residents and/or fundraisers. It will not come out of our budget. There were many responses to the idea of changing/updating the entrance. Some want little to no change, some want to keep the heritage and make small changes and others want bigger changes. Suggested changes were painting the signs, changing the lighting, changing the script of the letters, removing plants that cover the signs, changing the entire structure, etc. Nancy May suggested talking with a sign company regarding the lighting on the signs. Stephen Johnston mentioned that if we decided to change the sign we may run into trouble with the Lynnhaven SGA and the city. The Lynnhaven SGA may have to approve the change and may tell us what the sign has to look like. The city also has regulations/standards for signs and may require the sign to look a certain way. He suggested having a landscape architect look at the entrance, instead of a sign company. It will be announced to the colony that a committee will be gathering information regarding front entrance changes. The committee consists of Ed Lizak, Heather Serio, Carol Taylor, Nancy May, Annette Thompson, and Betty Kennedy. The committee will seek out companies to give us an idea of what changes could be made to the front entrance and the cost of those changes. Nancy May will send out an email to set up the first committee meeting. Steve wants the committee to be able to present its findings at the next Board of Directors meeting.
- The Garden Club wants to update the garden area to better highlight the Colony's name, with help financially from the Civic League. The Civic League has a \$475 budget for flowers and mulching for the fall and spring. Carol Taylor proposed lower the height of the plantings so the name isn't obstructed. They already removed the roses in the front entrance because they were overgrown, covering the signs, and required regular maintenance. They tried to sell the roses to make some money from them. There has been no luck with selling them yet. The Garden Club pays for and purchases the annuals that are planted in the fall and spring. They plan on purchasing pansies for the fall. The Garden Club proposed the purchase of 30 Encore azaleas to replace the other plants that will be removed or have been removed. The azaleas are advertised to not exceed 30" in height, require little to no maintenance on them, and produce multiple blooms in a growing season. The cost will be high and they have asked for financial assistance from the Civic League. After discussing with the residents and board members at the meeting, the purchase of the azaleas was approved. The Garden Club said they need help to take care of the entrance. It would help reduce costs by having volunteers plant and mulch, instead of paying a company.

**New Business:**

- Volunteers needed for Halloween party.
- There will be a change in the Civic League meeting schedule. The next meeting will be held in January and at that time, elections will be held. More information to come.

Additional comments- none

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Serio  
Secretary