

## Notes from the 13 February 2008 Meeting of the Council of Civic Organizations

The CCO met Wednesday, February 13, at the Central Library. A quorum was met. CBCL President Heidi Janicki and CBCL Vice President Steve Kohler attended along with your Representative. Councilman Robert Dyer also attended. Treasurer's report and acceptance of old minutes were passed.

The first item of business was a policy paper by CCO against the City's proposal to cut current bus service in VAB by \$1.2 million and asking for a 20% increase in addition. Lively discussion ensued regarding whether bus service is used in Virginia Beach enough to warrant opposition. Apparently buses are filled on Virginia Beach Boulevard, however, the number of empty buses on other routes also came up. Some data was available, but it seemed sketchy and a little anecdotal. It is my opinion that concrete data was/is needed before any decision is made. The motion carried, however, but without the 20% increase.

The major presentation was by Joel Rubin who went over the bills in the General Assembly which might affect Virginia Beach. This is in preparation for the April CCO Meeting in which a delegate, Senator and City Representative will be available for questions regarding these bills.

Since the Dillon Rule adversely affects Chesapeake Beach, I suggest we have a strong showing at the April meeting. Our City Council seems unable to rein in the out of control developers in Virginia Beach, ostensibly because of State interference, so this might be a good time for Chesapeake Beach residents (along with the Shore Drive Community Coalition) to come out in full force to deliver our message to City and State simultaneously that we are being adversely affected by over-development and density. Remember, only the president and CCO Rep can vote, but guests are allowed to voice opinions and ask questions.

Elizabeth Gregory,  
CBCL CCO Liaison