

Chesapeake Beach Civic League

Working Meeting Minutes of 20 August 2009

- 1) The meeting was **called to order** at 7:01 p.m.
- 2) The following officers and committee chairs were in **attendance** at the meeting:
President & Pleasure House Lake Chair – Heidi Janicki
Vice President – Brad Sike
Secretary & Webmaster – Bob Costello
Treasurer – Pat Costello
Architectural Preservation & Zoning Committee Co-Chairs – Bruce Johnson
Bayside Advisory Committee (BAC) & Historian – Wally Damon
Meeting Coordinator – Jackie Robertson
Merchandising Committee Chair – Kathy Damon
Shore Drive Community Coalition Liaison & Safety & Neighborhood Watch Committee Tri-Chair –
Steve Kohler
Also in attendance were 5 other members, for a total of 14.
- 3) **President's Report:** President Janicki made the following comments:
 - a) At our last general meeting, the membership had voted to have the candidates for our state legislature appear at the next general meeting, but they are not available for this, because they have agreed to only four pre-election forums which are already established. The CBCL will publish information about these other candidate forums.
 - b) Thanks to Darren Buss and Chris Norton for organizing another successful National Night Out (NNO). They had the Captain of the 3rd Police Precinct appear at this year's event and gave away NNO t-shirts.
 - c) Someone has expressed an interest in filling the CCO Representative position.
- 4) **Reading and approval of Minutes:** Secretary Costello read the minutes from the July 16, 2009 general membership. Several amendments were made. The minutes were approved as amended for the record.
- 5) **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Costello reviewed the Treasurer's report, which is attached below.
- 6) **New Business:**
 - a) Uncontrolled Dogs:
 - i) Liz and Roger Gregory requested CBCL support in getting residents to follow the Virginia Beach city codes for animal control. There have been many dog confrontations and even an occurrence of a pit bull attacking and injuring another dog on the beach. They acknowledged that another CBCL member is concerned that drawing attention to this problem could somehow cause dogs to be prohibited at all times on the beach. Liz recommended that we publish notices in our newsletter about following the city codes; it was also recommended that the newsletter notice be written in a non-confrontational manner. Liz, also, recommended that the civic league establish an animal control coordinator who will receive complaints about neighborhood pets, and if there are frequent offenders, the CBCL coordinator will call the city animal control and complain. It was also recommended that if we have the CBCL animal coordinator that they contact the animal owner first before just contacting the city to complain.
 - ii) There was unanimous agreement about publishing information on animal control and loose dogs in the newsletter.
 - iii) There was significant disagreement with the idea of establishing a pet coordinator, because some members were concerned that the civic league not be acting in a law enforcement capacity. It was recommended that if we do not establish a CBCL animal coordinator, that the CBCL contact the city

animal control department and tell them that we are having an ongoing problem in Chesapeake Beach and ask them to help resolve our neighborhood problem.

b) Green Parrot Grill (GPG):

- i) A letter was received from a resident living near the Green Parrot Grill expressing certain issues.
 - (1) The letter implied that it was from the civic league neighborhood watch, but the CBCL did not send it. The letter is anonymous.
 - (2) One issue raised was that the establishment has loud live music Wednesday through Sunday nights, and Laurie Richards had said previously that they would not have amplified music. It was believed that the state ABC had contacted the Green Parrot about the amplified music.
 - (3) Another issue raised was that the establishment operates until 2:00am. They built a deck outside last year for smokers, and made the inside smoke free. Patrons now hang around outside contributing to the noise problem all the way until 2:00am every night of the week.
- ii) Residents who live next to and near the Green Parrot attended this working meeting. They agreed with the two major issues raised in the anonymous complaint letter. They also mentioned the following issues:
 - (1) Some of the patrons spill over to local residents' property, urinating and smoking pot in residents' yards and driveways.
 - (2) Patrons park their cars illegally in the city roadway. Residents are concerned because the illegally parked cars block access to the two traffic lanes and also block pedestrian access to the area in front of the Green Parrot.
 - (3) It was reported that the police have sent a couple of special patrols to try to control these problems.
 - (4) It was also noted that the city sent another letter to the establishment addressing parking problems.
- iii) The CBCL will look into the complaints and talk to the manager of the GPG about the residents' issues.

7) **Old Business:**

- a) VB Comprehensive Plan: A draft Comprehensive Plan has been released to the City Planning Commission. Word is that the new Comprehensive Plan will not recommend any changes to the Shore drive area. Instead, the city Planning Department is recommending a separate study for establishing a "Suburban focus Area" in the Bayfront area. A public comment meeting, date TBD, will be held for the new Comprehensive Plan.
- b) CXB: Via e-mail, Kim Schmidt presented the following:
 - i) Kim Schmidt laid out the pros and cons to pursuing defending the trademark protection which CBCL maintains in the CXB trademark. The pros were that we do have a legal leg to stand on, and going forward with the legal battle would more thoroughly protect our future revenue from CXB products. The cons were that the legal expenses would likely be \$1,500 - \$1,700 or more and that it would take time and effort to police any infringement on our trademark.
 - ii) Based upon cons, Kim suggests that we not pursue legal action to preserve our trademark. She proposed that we instead flood the community by mailing or delivering decals along with a Membership Application for 2010 to our members or all residents. The cost of this project was estimated at a minimum of \$2,000. The Executive Board decided to refer this matter to the general membership meeting for consideration by the membership in November, because of the unbudgeted cost associated with this suggestion.
- c) Brad Sike attended the last of the city's Lynnhaven River Basin Restoration meeting and reports that none of the lakes in our neighborhood is on the list to be restored to the river.

8) **Committee Reports:**

a) *CBCL Operational Committees:*

- i) Block Captains Committee: Not present.
- ii) Business Liaisons: Please see the discussion under Newsletter Editor.
- iii) Meeting Coordinator: Jackie Robertson reported that she will not be at the September general membership meeting. It was suggested that hold a pot-luck dinner for the next meeting.
- iv) Membership Committee: Position Vacant.
- v) Newsletter Editor: Jean Robinson has been having some medical issues and will not be able to continue with the newsletter. Kim Schmidt is willing to resume as editor of the newsletter, but the CBCL will need to obtain a new Business Liaison for 2010.
- vi) Webmaster: Nothing to report.

b) *Special Focus Committees:*

- i) Adopt-A-Street/Waterway: Not present.
- ii) Architectural Preservation & Zoning: Nothing to report.
- iii) Historian: Nothing to report.
- iv) Merchandising Committee: Kathy Damon investigated having our next t-shirts made in the USA, but they would cost \$30 or so per t-shirt. Instead, she is looking at ordering the t-shirts from Vista Print. The Executive Board approved \$500 for the new t-shirts. The design for them is still being finalized.
- v) Neighborhood Park and Lakes Committee: Heidi Janicki reported the following:
 - (1) Park Update: The wooden guard rail along Lookout Rd. is complete.
 - (2) Lake Water Quality Update:
 - (a) The city spent \$4,000 on water quality testing of our neighborhood lakes last year, and it appears that it will not be in the budget for 2010.
 - (b) Jackie Weitzel sent an application to the commonwealth of Virginia asking them to resume testing the water in Lake Joyce.
 - (c) The CBCL may not be able to utilize a \$5,000 grant, if awarded it, so Jackie Weitzel is going to submit a package requesting a \$1,000 grant for the CBCL.
- vi) Pride-In-Community Committee: Not present.
- vii) Safety & Neighborhood Watch Committee: Nothing to report.

c) *Partnering Organizations:*

- i) Bayfront Advisory Committee (BAC) Liaison: Wally Damon reported that the BAC discussed a national proposal for an "East Coast Greenway" conversion, which would be a series of connecting bike trails established along the United States east coast, similar to the Intracoastal Waterway. If established, it might run along Shore Drive for some distance.
- ii) CCO Representative: Position Vacant.
- iii) Shore Drive Community Coalition Liaison: Nothing to report.

9) The **meeting adjourned** at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Costello,
CBCL Secretary