



**Baycliff Civic League
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
November 16, 2004**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Christine Westendorf at 7:00 PM at Alanton Elementary School. A Town Hall Meeting followed the Business Meeting. A clip board was passed around for people to sign up to speak about their concerns. Remarks should be focused, should last no longer than 2 minutes, and emphasize possible solutions to concerns.

Attendance

A membership count was taken. A quorum is defined as 2 officers and 20 members. There were 37 people in attendance, including at least 4 officers. 14 absentee ballots were received. A quorum was established.

Minutes

The minutes of the September 14, 2004 General Membership Meeting were approved as presented.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer's Report (sent in by Bob Swink, read by Mark Schalow)

The beginning balance of the money market account was \$11,810.62. There were no deposits and no expenses. Interest earned was \$9.84, leaving a balance on hand of \$11,820.46. The beginning balance of the checking account was \$1750.56. There were deposits of \$8597.25 and expenses of \$2434.93, leaving a balance on hand of \$7912.88. The combined balance of both accounts is \$19733.34.

Corresponding Secretary (Christine Westendorf for Sharon Haring)

Please let Sharon know of anyone to whom she should send a card.

Vice President's Reports (Mark Schalow and Paul Rist)

No reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alanton-Baycliff Garden Club holiday wreath and greenery pick up is Saturday, December 4th from 9:30am – noon at 1804 Fleet Terrace.

Volunteers are needed to help decorate the Baycliff entry on Thanksgiving weekend.

January Civic League meeting is Friday, January 14th at 6PM. It will be the Bingo and Pizza supper at Great Neck Recreation Center. Pizza is \$1 a slice, which includes a drink. Volunteers are needed for food sales & serving, door prizes, and Bingo calling.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Vote to approve proposed by-laws revisions

Helen Cox questioned the number needed to constitute a quorum. Our quorum number (2 officers and 20 members) is quite small and not even 10% of the neighborhood. Christine explained that the number was reduced years ago when low meeting attendance necessitated this in order to accomplish any business. Helen thought the number seemed too small. However, a motion was made to approve the by-laws revisions as published. The motion was seconded. Helen was still concerned that we have no "checks" for who is actually a Civic League member when votes are cast. Christine explained that the revisions we were voting on were minor. If there are other concerns about the by-laws, this may require additional revisions at another time. The motion was passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advertising (Christine Westendorf for Christie Woytowitz)

We have exceeded our fund-raising goals for the next 2 years. \$8010.00 in ad revenue was received.

Blood Drive "In Honor of Andree Polley"

The drive was quite successful with over 121 participants, many were first-time donors, and 60 were Baycliff residents. 20 donors were turned away. Bill and Christine were recognized for their willingness to share their home for the blood drive. Claire Polley also expressed her appreciation to everyone.

Covenants & Restrictions/Bylaws (Ted Land)

Ted visited the City Development Services Department to determine which city codes were similar to those in the C&R. We have additional rules in our C&R which are still beneficial. We need to let all residents know that the C&R exist. Rosalie Haight has helped with this when she welcomes new families. New homeowners should receive the C&R during the closing process.

Directory (C. Westendorf)

We are a little behind schedule. We hope to send it to the printer on December 1 and to distribute it on January 1, 2005.

E-Watch & Web site (Bill Westendorf)

No report. I thought that Bill briefly reviewed the rules for use.

Fall Festival (C. Westendorf)

Held on Saturday, October 30 from 3:30PM – 6PM. It was a great success, thanks to Sandi Barea & Kelly Christianson. Over 200 photos are on our web site.

Holiday Party for Adults (C. Westendorf)

December 12 from 7PM – 10 PM at Peter & Evelyn Kiebert's home, 1616 Bay Point Court. BYOB and an appetizer to share. A donation of non-perishable food items is requested. Host and hostess helpers are needed to greet guests, take coats, and serve.

Hospitality (Rosalie Haight)

Please let her know when new neighbors move in.

Landscaping (Barbara Hancock)

The fall planting went smoothly. On Nov. 11, 200 pansies were planted and mulched with the help of volunteers. I think this is incorrect. A rock was stolen earlier when Mark Schalow installed three by the bulletin board. Some of the new rocks were stolen after they were installed. They are over 900 pounds each. We may need to buy more. They were positioned so that cars could not easily avoid them.

Luminaria (C. Westendorf)

Bags will be distributed on Thanksgiving weekend. The lighting will be on Dec. 24 at 6PM, with a rain date of Dec. 31. Corner lots will be given twice as many bags. An extra dozen bags can be purchased for \$2. Candles can be purchased at the dollar stores. Hopefully, participation will increase this year. Volunteers are needed to deliver the bags.

Neighborhood Watch (Claire Polley)

The meeting for block captains is on hold.

Newsletter (Christine Westendorf for Kristin Field)

The newsletter deadline is Dec. 15 for the January Bugle. The newsletter needs to go out before the January meeting.

Rock Purchase (Kim Cox & Mark Schalow)

Thanks to all the donors. New boulders have been installed and a second pallet of rocks is expected.

Safety and Improvement (Mark Schalow)

Please report all malfunctioning street lights to Mark so that he can report all street light problems to the city at one time. It takes the city a long time to respond.

Santa Visit

Scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2PM. Volunteers are needed for baking cookies, set up, and serving. Helpers are needed to assist Santa and to help with the pit fire. A hayride is being

considered. Sign up sheets were passed around.

Yacht Club (Weaver Wrenn)

Parking lot repaving estimates range from \$16,000 to \$20,000. Margie Mazzarella will work on the SNIP Application. Trash and debris continue to wash up at the boat ramp. Weekly cleaning is needed. A tree should probably be cut down. Weaver can do this himself.

PROGRAM – TOWN HALL MEETING/OPEN FORUM

Remarks should be limited to 2 minutes. Speakers will be alerted when their time is up with a "sign". The topics covered will help the Civic League determine which issues need to be addressed. Paul Rist and Mark Schalow served as moderators. Speakers can comment on the Baycliff survey or voice concerns, but initial comments should be limited to 2 minutes.

Speaker: Chris Gerloff of Bay Point Drive

During storms, Chris usually loses power. Neighbor Larry Sancilio said he had solved this problem two years ago. Chris's part of Baycliff has their electric lines linked with Alanton. If trees fall in Alanton, Baycliff residents lose power. Larry Sancilio says they were switched to a different grid. He spoke to a "Mr. Bartholomew" from the city, who said he'd look into the matter. George Cox commented that he thought the problem had been resolved several years ago but obviously was not. George Cox volunteered to chair a committee to look into the problem.

Speaker: George Cox

He's concerned about safety, speeding, and small children playing in the streets. Some children will not move and will even defy you to move. We need to publish warnings in the newsletter. Many children have no adult supervision. Skateboarders act like they own the road. We should let parents know that these children must stay out of the street. Mr. Brown has noticed many cars parked on the sides of streets. Drivers can't see children at play until they're right on top of them. We must let residents know the rules. (Note: The Civic League cannot enforce rules, only educate residents.) We must encourage residents to slow down, even if we have to yell at them. One resident followed a teenage driver home and confronted her about her speed. Claire Polley bought signs that said "children at play", but all were stolen. We need to form a traffic subcommittee. Policeman and Baycliff resident Chuck Long advises residents to simply write down the license number of the offender and report this to the police – it is not a good idea to confront your neighbors.

Resident Ernie Cox has lived here for a little over a year and was concerned about the 25 mph speed limit. Does this apply 24/7? He spoke to someone in the assistant city manager's office about the speeding problem and was told that a survey was taken several years ago concerning speeding and that Baycliff residents turned it down. Christine Westendorf explained the traffic calming program that the Civic League attempted: we did not get nearly enough signatures on the petitions to move to Phase 3, which residents agree to pay higher fines if caught speeding and special signs are installed. Now, the city is willing to install speed bumps (several years ago, they would not).

George Cox will call the city about school buses speeding through the neighborhood.

Speaker: Kim Cox

What can we do about loose dogs? She can't walk her dog or take a walk with her spouse without fear of attack by loose dogs. Paul Rist advised that the Civic League can not "police", we can only remind residents of the leash laws and ask them to call animal control.

Speaker: Helen Cox

Still has by-laws concern (see above).

Speaker: Christie Woytowitz

Very few people are stopping at the stop signs near her house. There's a bus stop there and someone is going to get hurt. People need to stop or at least slow down.

Speaker: Ann Mitchell

Industrial trash containers are being left out on the street where people are remodeling. What are the rules for this? A good thing is that these large containers keep people from speeding. Contractors need to be advised to keep dump trucks out of the street.

Speaker: Barbara Hancock

Can additional street lights be installed? It's very dark! Mark Schalow commented that it would not hurt to ask the city about this. Also, some people are putting out their trash cans 2 days in advance. Perhaps we should put reminder notices on these trash cans.

Speaker: Paul Rist

Re: traffic safety – Baycliff was part of a pilot program where we had the "electronic speed monitoring sign " on Baycliff Drive. Could we purchase our own sign that could be locked onto a pole? These signs can be moved from place to place. They can also generate computer reports concerning speed that can be sent to the police. But, if we purchase our own sign, police and the city have indicated it is "encroachment." Also, police will not enforce a privately owned sign. The price to purchase a sign is approx. \$3000. It would also need to be insured. It could be set so that kids couldn't "race it." The sign would need to be moved so that people wouldn't get used to seeing it in the same place. People will usually slow down if they see their own speed displayed. Could we hire an off-duty policeman to write tickets for speeders? This is the only way people will learn. Christine has 2 CD's about Sentry Signs that people can view. Bill Westendorf commented that we spent \$1300 on rocks for the entry. Couldn't we spend \$3000 on a sign? We need to keep things in perspective!

Speaker: Ms. Baker

She was upset about the Norfolk Academy buses no longer being allowed to drop kids off at the circle due to a request by the Civic League. Now, the drop off point for kids will be FC, which is farther away. The public school buses are allowed to drop kids off near the circle. However, Christine Westendorf pointed out that parents do not park on the circle... it is strictly a brief drop off. Could the Civic League please call the private bus company if they have problems? Christine explained that NA parents were parking around the circle and would not move, even when asked.

Rick Zahn emphasized that public school buses are allowed to stop there – why not private school buses? Christine reiterated that we are not objecting to the buses stopping, but the parents parking around the circle. He believes the Civic League needs to call NA to reinstate the bus stop. The main issue was with the parents who refused to move from the circle and wait elsewhere. Parking in the traffic circle restricts community traffic flow specifically when residents are going and coming home from work and is unsafe. Many kids riding the bus in the summer were not from Baycliff. Helen Cox would be happy to work on a "Resolution Committee" to approach people and advise them of the rules. The question: is parking ever allowed on the traffic circle? Currently, the signs say no parking 8 AM – 4 PM weekdays. We need signs that say parking is not allowed there at any time. Ms. Baker will talk to NA about reinstating the bus stop but was requested to make certain NA parents promise not to park on the circle. She declined to do so. Mark Schalow commented that residents bring problems to the Civic League and expect the officers to solve them. The Civic League originally put up the "no parking" signs long ago. Could we take these signs down? Helen Cox asked if we could have "Children At Play" signs installed by the city but was told that the state no longer makes these signs.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Wahl, Recording Secretary