

BAYCLIFF CIVIC LEAGUE MINUTES

January 20, 2010

President Hogan began the meeting and 7 P.M., there were 23 in attendance. Our guest speaker Alex J. Turner, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Norfolk division, was introduced by President Hogan.

Mr. Turner came from Washington, D.C. Field office where he set up a gang intelligence center. He has been with the FBI for 25 years, and formerly a police officer and is very sensitive to local issues. He is also a resident of Virginia Beach and very familiar with the issues we face.

He told the audience that the FBI has 56 field offices in the US, and Norfolk is now one of the group. Their priorities for Hampton Roads are

—international terrorism (a) extremist groups, (b) globally inspired extremist groups, and c) home grown/loner groups.

Protecting military in area is a high priority as well as cyber intrusion issues, and cyber crime ie, identification theft and child pornography.

Mr. Turner then explained his background regarding gang activities. Two years ago when assigned to Virginia Beach he saw tagging in every area, it was not as obvious at first glance, but it is getting worse, and we cannot ignore the problems it presents. He said there are number of well known gangs in our area and a gang leader can be sent here from an area across the country. He said it is typical to look for a weak link, kids from broken homes, loners and vulnerable. It gives some kids a sense of protection and belonging. He said as of March 1, 2010 a new unit devoted to gang investigation will be underway, it will be a multi-gang task force.

Communities can be very effective in helping identify and reporting information; putting ourselves in action with the City Council; becoming active and aware. Tagging indicates a group marking their territory and it should be a warning.

A question was asked regarding high schools that do not report gang activity - the answer is no, all schools have gang activity. He said once you are involved in belonging to a gang, it is very difficult to get out.

Mr. Turner advises residents to call the local police and the FBI can be reached at

any time.

Minutes of meeting November 18, 2009 were read and M/S/C.

The Treasurer's Report was distributed to all.

The Boat Ramp has been repaired

New Business - a 3-hour brush up course in CPR is going to be given, if interested please contact Claire Polley.

The Egg Hunt is scheduled for Marcy 27;

Yard Sale scheduled for May 1

President Hogan provided a brief overview of the 5 High Speed Rail initiatives and indicated he would put together a position for the community to support and provide that back via Baycliff Watch. After receiving comments from the Baycliff Watch post. President Hogan will submit the communities comments to the Virginia Department of Rail and Transportation's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) by 11 February, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Cox, Secretary