

Baycliff Civic League Minutes
Alanton Elementary
March 21st, 2012

President Frank Cunningham called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. There were 17 in attendance.

Recording Secretary, Janie Cecelic recapped the minutes from the January 24th meeting.

Frank Cunningham shared the highlights of the Executive Board Meeting held February 22nd, 2012.

Upcoming events:

- Egg hunt March 31st
- Yard Sale May 19th
- VBCCO volunteer Recognition Banquet is March 23rd Baycliff has a table of ten and our honorees are Teen volunteer Carson Dye and adult volunteers, Meredith Hills and Jill Frazier. (Janice Ray asked if her honor could be deferred until next year so she could attend the banquet, and Frank was agreeable to this request.) All honorees will be able to attend.

Last year at our May 2011 meeting, a proposal to build a **Picnic Pavilion** at the Baycliff entry common area was voted upon and approved. Voters decided to do the project in phases and to install picnic tables as the first step. It was decided to have the project start slowly to make certain the picnic tables were actually used by residents and also to rule out any problems, such as vandalism, excessive trash or loitering teens. Frank Cunningham will recontact Bill Seith about this. The tables will be "heavy duty" so they will last and be anchored to the ground to prevent any vandalism. We have contacted an Eagle Scout leader who has 3 boys who may be interested in taking on this project. If the Eagle scouts can not do the project, then Bill and Frank will buy the tables and place them.

Frank did go to the entrance to look at the trees that are falling down on Mill Dam Road. There is one tree that is hanging over Mill Dam road that appears dangerous and we might be better taking it down ourselves, Frank will get with Bill Seith.

Donation to Alanton Baycliff Recreation Center was made.

Nominating committee for next years officers.

- All of the current volunteers have agreed to continue for one more year with the exception of Larry. Frank is to get in touch with Larry and if Larry is unable to serve, he will be asked to chair the nominating committee and take charge of finding a replacement for himself as First Vice-President.

We still need an advertising committee chair person. The directory will be printed next winter. Janie Cecelic will start the process but would like help to complete the process of follow up and getting the art, etc. The advertising revenue is used to print the directory every other year and the 5 Bugle issues each year.

Gift certificate from Target for the winner of the early paid dues has been purchased and the name will be drawn at the Egg Hunt. (Need names on slips of paper to pull from at egg hunt)

Garden Club Volunteer Clean up

- Completed last Thursday. There were 6 people that came.
- 1/3 of the clean up at the entry is completed, there were a lot of weeds and we still need to do more.
- Chad Lyall agreed to do the weeding in the hotter months for a fee which will be paid from the Civic league and will be part of next year's budget.
- Garden club will continue to do the planting.

Frank needs to get some marble cleaner to clean off the gang graffiti off the MARBLE areas of the entry sign. Christine mentioned that several years ago, when her husband Bill was civic league president, that he sponge painted over spray painted graffiti on the stone areas of the entry sign with several different shades of gray paint. Marian Buis has already spray painted over the gang graffiti on the entry bulletin board. The weekend weather has not allowed Frank to get out there and try to clean the sign.

First Colonial High School gradfest donation was made.

Susannah Uroskie reviewed the treasurer's report.

- Checking Account balance is \$12,193.75 – 160 residents have paid their dues.
- Money Market account balance is \$44,304.75
- Combined balances are \$56,498.50

Christine mentioned that Marion Buis had an interesting idea of having a "preview" for residents only prior to the Yard sale start time to allow residents "first pick". Marion is trying to figure it out the logistics on how to accomplish this. Possibly using on line or our web site may be an option.

Frank Cunningham attended the last VBCCO meeting and the topic was SPCA Animal shelter for injured wild life animals to nurse them back to health. The SPCA has been trying to get City support for the program and at this time the City is not supporting. SPCA is still pursuing. There were 10 people in attendance at the VBCCO meeting.

Wednesday May 16th is the next Civic League Meeting, and it was suggested that we get someone to speak on the new Boating Safety Regulations. Frances Zahn, Baycliff resident and Executive Officer of the Virginia Beach Sail and Power Squadron, and who is certified to inspect boats for safety, was suggested as a presenter.

Bob Swink inquired about a crime on Seafarer Cove. Susannah Uroskie mentioned that her son's cell phone was taken after he had laid it down on the street. She reported the crime and knows where the phone is by using the GPS locator on the phone.

Jim Cecelic updated the group on the Dredging project.

Option One: Do nothing

- Boat ramp and creek will continue to slit up and be unusable during low tides.
- Non waterfront homes will not be able to sell their homes as "deep water access".

Option Two: Sign up for an SSD (Special Service District) with the city

- All waterfront homes will be accessed a charge on their Real estate taxes for a term of 16 years making it more difficult to sell these homes.

- The SSD will cost Baycliff canal waterfront home owners in excess of \$850,000 (average \$1000 per year for 16 years for 54 homes). Cost increases when assessments increase.

Option Three: Come together as a community and do the dredging project ourselves.

- Cost is estimated at \$250,000 maximum (\$50K for survey and hiring a professional engineer to handle project from start to finish - \$200K for dredge removal)
- We would have to raise the funds ourselves

Goal is to have a 25 ft wide channel that is 4-6 ft deep at low tide.

Committee agreed to try and do the project ourselves as it is the lowest cost solution.

Next Steps:

- Determine community interest – are home owners financially committed?
- Send out survey flyer and e-mail to determine interest
- Establish funding suggestions based on waterfront vs. non-waterfront property.
- Raise funding for survey and professional engineer \$50,000.
- Establish what additional areas are to be surveyed as part of the permit (i.e. canals, personal spurs needed, personal turn basins, area under boat lift, etc).
- Set up an LLC (Limited Liability Company) to put funding in – Head of LLC will be the one person responsible to deal with engineer. Get legal counsel
- Hire a professional engineer to handle all paperwork and “hand walk” paperwork through.
- Cost for work beyond canal and spur to be homeowner’s responsibility.
- Once the survey has been complete and the permit submitted additions can not be made. Ask for more and take less.
- Once survey completed it will take almost 2 years before any dredging begins.
- Once dredging begins the job will take 2-3 weeks to complete.
- Payment requirements are 25% to start work, 25% at 25% completion, and 25% at 50% completion and the final payment at receipt of final engineering survey.
- Work will not start until we can prove that we have the funding in place.

Notes:

- Channel can not be deeper than the waterway it ties into (end of creek)
- Channel will be a minimum of 10ft off bulk heads and 4ft off pier pilings.
- To dredge within 10ft of a bulk head will need a waiver completed by homeowner.
- To allow dredging under a personal boat lift there is a charge of approximately \$350 to remove the cradle. Electrical will need to be pulled and replaced by an electrician.
- Dredge spoils will be pulled out at the boat ramp area, excavator on north side of willow tree; spoils go to the Oceana Blvd Dump station minimizing the effect on the neighborhood and the boat ramp.
- Mats will be used to protect the asphalt/grass however it may need to be reseeded when complete.
- Dredge project will most likely occur in the winter months minimizing the inconvenience to the boaters.
- Once permit is issued, need to have job completed (paid for) so that survey does not “expire”.

Andy Reid suggested that if someone knows anyone at Broad Bay Point Greens that we contact them to see if they want to be involved in the project. Involving other neighborhoods will help off set the cost.

Andy Reid will contact Tom Langley from Langley and McDonald, a full service civil engineering and consulting firm specializing in land & marine development, to see if he will speak at the May meeting to discuss what his company can provide.

Andy Reid mentioned that Langley and McDonald are working with the city on the neighborhood dredging projects that are underway and that Langley and McDonald felt that with our boat ramp area being used to pull the spoils that this simplified our neighborhood dredge project.

If we use Langley and McDonalds services the cost is estimated at about \$50,000 but that is a “turn key” project from start to finish they will handle every thing from getting the survey , Deed search making sure that we are not encroaching, handle all the permits and walking them through the city. The only additional expense is the hiring and removal of the dredge (approximately \$200,000 depending on survey results).

Jim Cecelic to write an article for the next Bugle to inform all residents where the committee stands.

Jim Cecelic needs to get the committee together to come up with a “formula” for water front versus non water front property owners suggested contribution for the dredging.

At this time we will not solicit the waterfront owners on the “other side of the creek” at this time. If we come up short then we may seek their involvement to get the funding we need.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm