



# BELLAMY WOODS CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

[www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org](http://www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org)



## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS



### BWCL Annual Membership Meeting

Wed, Oct 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

**New Location: Kempsville Middle School  
860 Churchill Drive**

#### Speakers:

Jennifer Franklin – District 1 School Board Member. Will provide an update on school system news, answer your questions, and hear any concerns parents or residents have.

Kristi Rines – City of VB Recycling Coordinator. The City is seeking resident input on proposed changes/options to VB's recycling program – [fill out the City's survey here.](#)

See page 2 for more information!



### BWCL Annual Halloween Party

Sunday, Oct 29 from 2 to 5 PM

Location: BWCL Park



Kids should wear their favorite Halloween costume and enjoy an afternoon with your neighbors at our local BWCL park playing games, eating snacks, enjoying music and winning prizes for best costume by age group! Parents are welcome to dress up too, and the kids will judge the best adult costume!

*Please note: this is a membership event.* If your household is not already a member, your family can join at the event or join in advance - see membership information on page 5.

We're adding a charity benefit element to this year's even. Please consider bringing non-perishable food items for the **Food Bank** or pet items for VBSPCA. Visit <https://vbspca.com/wish-list/> to see items the local **Virginia Beach SPCA** needs.



### Oceanfront Holiday Lights Bike Night

Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:30pm

Enjoy the Holiday Lights while biking the Oceanfront boardwalk. Parking and admission are **FREE** on bike night. Visit:

<https://beacheventsvb.com/event/bayport-credit-union-holiday-lights-at-the-beach-presented-by-food-lion/>





## October 18, 2023 Annual BWCL Membership Meeting Topics:

**School Board Member:** Learn what is going on within our school system from **Jennifer Franklin**, District 1’s School Board member. It’s your opportunity to provide input directly back to the School Board!



### **Recycling:**

Did you know that 40% of what residents place into the blue recycling bins ends up in the dump because it is either trash, contaminates clean recyclables, or has no viable market through the region’s only home-pickup recycling contractor? Did you know that the City of Virginia Beach’s recycling contract expires in Spring 2024, and it cannot continue at the same cost for collecting recycling every two weeks - partially due to the high waste content? **Kristi Rines**, the City’s Recycling Coordinator, will explain the situation and share various alternatives the City is considering in preparation for the current contract’s end. Come learn about and provide input into this valuable service provided by City. Learn ahead of time at [The State of Recycling - PublicInput](#)



**Adopt-a-Program for Bellamy Woods Park:** The City owns and maintains our neighborhood park, but help from citizens to keep community parks litter-free is always welcome. Our members will be asked to vote on whether to apply to the City’s Adopt-A-Program to conduct occasional litter cleanups. This is a two-year commitment by the neighborhood. Cleanups will be held every other month by neighborhood volunteers, and many will be scheduled ahead of civic league events in the park. “Adoption” does not include mowing or landscaping duties.

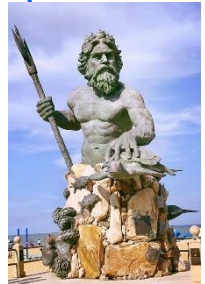


**BWCL Board seat:** There is one vacant at-large seat on the BWCL Board, currently filled by a temporary appointment through Oct 18th. The membership will vote to fill this seat. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, or in advance by notifying the civic league’s President or Secretary. Questions? Ask a BWCL Officer.

**Budget:** The July 2023 to June 2024 BWCL budget will be voted on at the meeting.

## Virginia Beach Comprehensive Plan

The City’s Comprehensive Plan is a formal document that projects how VB should be 20 years into the future, and regulates land use, development & investment across the city to achieve those goals. All City Capital Improvements Program (CIP) projects, zoning applications, development and land use proposals are evaluated for consistency with the Comp Plan as a requirement of being approved.



The 2040 Comprehensive Plan update is currently underway. Along with resident input, compilation and analysis of Virginia Beach’s existing conditions will be crucial to planning for the city’s growth over the next several years. **Public Engagement events to gather your input will begin in October/November.**

Some initial focus group priorities included sea level rise/flood protection, connectivity, sustainable and resilient development, preservation of open space for well being and recreation, maintaining the Green Line, concentrating business development in strategic growth areas, preserving historic resources, and being a “world-class” city, beach and resort area. Visit: <https://planning.virginiabeach.gov/comp-plan>

**If you have any questions or comments regarding the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, please email [CompPlan@vbgov.com](mailto:CompPlan@vbgov.com).**

## \$\$ BWCL TREASURER’S REPORT \$\$

For Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2023

### **Balance Sheet:**

Cash at June 30, 2023: \$6605

### **Income Statement:**

Membership Dues: \$4290

Expenses-PIP \$2861

Other Expenses (Halloween, Lighting, Insurance, Parade etc.) \$1836

Deficit (\$ 407)



## ELECTION DAY - NOVEMBER 7, 2023



**Election Day is coming - do you know who & what is on the ballot? Here's a recap:**

On November 7, our neighborhood's voters will elect:

- Our Virginia State Senator ([22nd Senate District](#))
- Our Virginia State Delegate ([97th House District](#))
- 2 Soil & Water Conservation Directors (*no clue? Click here:* [Virginia Dare District](#))

Sample ballots with candidates' names are online at <https://voter.virginiabeach.gov/elections/sample-ballot-guide>.

Note: different versions for districts across the City are posted; check for the one with our District #'s noted above.

### Key upcoming dates for November elections include:

- ✓ **September 22: Early and absentee voting began** Dates, times, locations, and more information is at: <https://voter.virginiabeach.gov/elections/early-absentee-voting>
- ✓ **October 16: Voter Registration Deadline**
- ✓ **October 27: Vote by Mail application deadline (5pm)**
- ✓ **November 4: Last day for early in-person voting**
- ✓ **November 7: Election Day: polls open from 6am-7pm**

### Where Do I Vote on Election Day?

Our neighborhood overlaps two voting districts:

- Edwin District (091) – streets north of the river (i.e. the “Birks Lane” side). Vote at Larkspur Middle School
- Manor District (068) – streets south of the river (i.e. the “Berrywood/Selwood” side). Vote at Providence Elem.

For more info on polling places, voter registration, absentee ballots, the candidates, and campaign finances:

- ✓ VB Voter Registration & Elections office – 757-385-8683, or <https://voter.virginiabeach.gov/elections>
- ✓ Virginia State Board of Elections – 1-804-864-8901, or <https://elections.virginia.gov>
- ✓ Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP)– nonpartisan 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to public disclosure of campaign finances and election information. [www.vpap.org](http://www.vpap.org)

### District 1 (our district) City Council Seat

The District 1 City Council seat went vacant September 29th when Rocky Holcomb resigned to become Sheriff. This seat is **NOT** on the ballot in November. City Council broke with past practice and decided not to appoint a representative to fill the seat until Rocky's term runs out in December 2024. Instead, **City Council chose to leave the 46,000 residents in our district unrepresented** until after a separate special election is held January 9, 2024, at a cost of more than \$185,000. That person will serve about 11 months, and then the same seat will be back up for election again in November 2024 for a full four-year term. More information about key dates for this special election and candidate names (when known) will be posted this fall at <https://voter.virginiabeach.gov/elections>.



**Party in the Park**, held for the first time in June, kicked off the summer of 2023 and was a huge success! An estimated 200 people joined in the fun on this beautiful June day! Two bounce houses, face painting, balloons, games including the infamous BWCL egg toss as well as yummy pizza and BBQ were enjoyed by all!

A great big **Thanks!** to the event's MC, BWCL Vice President Andy Fiebig, and his wife Raven who were instrumental in coordinating this successful neighborhood get together!



**We'd also like to thank the local businesses who generously contributed door prizes:**

- ❖ Birdland Music <https://www.facebook.com/birdlandrecordstapescds/>
- ❖ Country Butcher Shop <https://www.facebook.com/whosyourbutcher/>
- ❖ New River Taphouse <https://newrivertaphouse.com>
- ❖ Philly Pretzel Factory <https://phillypretzelfactory.com/locations/virginiabeachva/>
- ❖ Sk8 Dogo <https://www.sk8dojoollerrink.com/>
- ❖ Smith's Books <https://www.facebook.com/p/Smith-Discount-Books-100029087334839/>
- ❖ Twisted Scissors Hair Salon <https://www.twistedscissorsvb.net/>
- ❖ Virginia Symphony Orchestra <https://virginiasymphony.org>

**Please support our local businesses with your patronage!**



**BELLAMY WOODS CIVIC LEAGUE  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM  
Spring 2023 through June 30, 2024**

**Your \$35 annual dues support:**

- ✓ Civic League newsletters & website ([www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org](http://www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org))
- ✓ BWCL Events including: membership meetings, neighborhood yard sale, "Party in the Park" picnic, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade & Halloween party
- ✓ Community Improvement projects
- ✓ Lighted entrance signage and flower bed maintenance

**Please join today either online at [www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org](http://www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org) or by sending this form and your \$35 check to:**

Bellamy Woods Civic League  
c/o Nan Zhang, Treasurer  
4712 Berrywood Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
Phone: 757-685-7282 Email: [Treasurer@bellamywoodscivicleague.org](mailto:Treasurer@bellamywoodscivicleague.org)

Name(s) of Resident(s)	
Name(s) of Resident(s)	
Address	Virginia Beach, VA 23464
Phone #	Second Phone #
Owner or Renter? <i>(Circle one of above)</i>	Possible Volunteer for:
Email address #1	Email address #2

Email addresses are not published but are used for sending BWCL crime alerts & newsletters to residents.

*The Bellamy Woods Civic League thanks you for your participation!*

## **BWCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>President</b>	Cat Watson	<a href="mailto:President@bellamywoodscivicleague.org">President@bellamywoodscivicleague.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Andy Fiebig	<a href="mailto:Vicepresident@bellamywoodscivicleague.org">Vicepresident@bellamywoodscivicleague.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nan Zhang	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@bellamywoodscivicleague.org">Treasurer@bellamywoodscivicleague.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Teresa Kraus	<a href="mailto:Secretary@bellamywoodscivicleague.org">Secretary@bellamywoodscivicleague.org</a>
<b>At Large Director</b>	Sue DeValdes	
<b>Special Projects Director</b>	Frank Gewet	
<b>Interim At-Large Director</b>	Celeste Green (thru 10/18/2023)	

## **BWCL VOLUNTEERS**

<b>Events Coordinator</b>	Raven Fiebig
<b>Historic Kempsville CAC &amp; VBCCO Rep</b>	Walter Camp
<b>Neighborhood Park Kiosk Postings</b>	Mel Watson
<b>Website Administrator</b>	Suzanne Pedigo
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Teresa Kraus

**Please visit the Bellamy Woods Civic League website at:**

**<https://www.bellamywoodscivicleague.org>**



**and visit the Bellamy Woods Neighbor & Friends Facebook page at:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BellamyWoods>**

## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT, SINCE 1987:**

The purpose and object of the Bellamy Woods Civic League is to bring into organization the residents and property owners of the Bellamy Woods area; to promote good fellowship and citizenship; to encourage the interchange of ideas; and to further the best interests of this area in the City of Virginia Beach toward beautification, recreation, sanitation, and safety of the residents and the protection of their property investments.