

BELLAMY WOODS CIVIC LEAGUE



MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING **MARCH 2, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm at the Providence Road Elementary School on Providence Road. Walter Camp the newly elected President introduced the other newly elected officers and directors of the 2011 Bellamy Woods Civic League. There were twenty-three membership residents in attendance.

Guest Speakers

Mr. Camp introduced the speakers for the evening: Ms. Sandra Smith-Jones, Virginia Beach School Board Member, Kempsville District and Mssrs. Matt Coneys and Ralph Stewart of the Code Enforcement Division, City of Virginia Beach.

Ms. Smith-Jones presented a slide projection outline of the strategic plan for student success in all areas of education. Provide training for teachers and administrators on developing a balanced assessment system that will motivate students to be self-directed and inquisitive learners. Ms. Smith-Jones also spoke about the rise in the number of students now attending Public Schools, which has increased because of economic times and the number of students transferring from private and home schooling back to public schools. She also pointed out that the school system is regulated by both Federal and State, which affects hiring, budget reviews and utility costs. Virginia Beach has, now, over 80,000 students up from 55,000 students in 1981. Virginia Beach schools rate the highest of all schools in the Hampton Roads area. Questions from members were answered in a full and informative manner.

Mr. Matt Coneys made provided an overview of the Department of Housing Code Enforcement Division's mission, and Ralph Stewart gave an overall account of his job as a code enforcement inspector. This included what steps were taken once a complaint was made by a member of the community. He also answered questions concerning the Ferrell Parkway easement, to inspect and arrange to have it cleared of debris. Cards and pamphlets were available, which contain information regarding the code enforcement laws of Virginia Beach.

Minutes, Reports, and Old Business

The minutes of the prior meeting were distributed and reviewed. Upon motion from the floor they were unanimously adopted without revision. Cathy Waters, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report. A motion was made to adopt the report; it was adopted and entered into record. Vice-President, Kyle Bullard, presented an update on Landscaping and Social Events. Greg Turpin, Neighborhood Watch Director, presented an update on the Neighborhood Watch Program and Block Captain Social. He noted the need for a new block captain to cover the 1101-1137 block of Birks Lane.

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Mr. Camp announced that the Baigert family was selected by the BWCL Board as recipients of our 2010 Volunteer of the Year Award. They will be recognized at the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations Awards Banquet for their outstanding volunteer service to our civic league and community. He reported that the proposed Violet Bank Drive multi-use path has been included in the City's revised bikeways and trails plan. He recognized our residents' advocacy, and he noted that the comment period to raise this project's priority was still open. Mr. Camp reported that the City's Public Works Department had informed him the street and sewer repairs at Berrywood Rd/Glen Lochen and Birks Lane/Brattleboro Arch would finally be completed by March 18, 2011.

Special Projects Director, Frank Gewet presented an update on the Birks Lane entrance sign project. Communications Director, Tom Brandl, updated the members regarding Newsletter information, story requests, and advertising rates.

Resident Meredith Glenn thanked the Civic League for publishing her newsletter article regarding collecting grocery store receipts and box tops to support the Providence Elementary School PTA. More funds were raised in six weeks following the newsletter's release than had been raised by the PTA the entire previous year.

Mr. Camp noted several upcoming community events, meetings and opportunities for residents to be involved in local civic affairs. The next meeting of the Bellamy Woods Civic League was announced for 7pm at Providence Elementary School, on May 11.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted by Isabelle Rader, Secretary