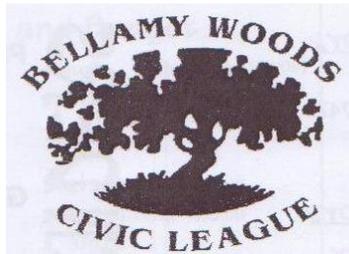


BELLAMY WOODS



CIVIC LEAGUE

7:00pm October 20, 2015 at Kempsville High School

MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Welcome Guests (Bill Harris) John Sokolowski, President
Directors Present: John Glenn, John Sokolowski, Cathe Waters, Walter Camp
Directors Absent: Frank Gewet, Erik Hart
Board Associates Present: Teresa Kraus, Jacob Kennedy
Board Associates Absent:

Bellamy Woods President John Sokolowski called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM EDT. Fifteen residents attended. Dr. Sokolowski asked each director and board associate to introduce themselves. Dr. Sokolowski then introduced the evening's guest speaker, Bill Harris, Principal of Kempsville High School.

Mr. Harris distributed information packets on SOL test score trends over a five year period in several subjects at the school. These trends showed an overall increase in test scores. Historical Algebra scores were low, resulting in the accreditation warning, and Mr. Harris reported that he is bringing in eight new math teachers to assist with improvements in that subject. A total of twelve math teachers are on staff. SOL scores for 2014-2015 are expected to be released soon, and Mr. Harris hopes that the school's accreditation status will improve from "Accredited With a Warning in Math" to "Fully Accredited".

Over the course of a year, the administration created and published a proposal to create an Entrepreneurship and Business academy program at the high school under the coordination of Meghan Timlin. This program will have 125 seats and divides into three core areas of focus, called strands. These strands are Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Business Information Technology, and Corporate Finance. Courses will create a foundation in business and technology and build out professional skills through senior year internships physically located outside of the school. Additionally there is opportunity for an associates degree and two years of college credit; Richard Bland as

the currently targeted school. Tidewater Community College may be an option; however, the school does not currently offer the required courses. Once the associates degree is earned, students will be considered for admission to a traditional four year school.

The warning accreditation status qualified the school for funding through the Digital Learning Initiative, which allowed the school to purchase tablets and small laptops for 9th grade students.

A resident raised a concern about violence in the school. Mr. Harris acknowledged that there have been incidents of student fighting, stated that the administration has a zero tolerance policy for drugs and violence, and committed to holding students accountable for their actions. Another resident asked about enrollment numbers, and Mr. Harris stated that enrollment has been declining by 50-100 students per year over the last four years. The current enrollment is approximately 1460 students in a building rated for 1900.

2. Review & Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting's Minutes John Glenn, Secretary
Board Secretary John Glenn called for a review of the previous general membership meeting minutes. The minutes were available for pickup at the sign in table. Due to the lateness of the hour a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with any revisions to be submitted to John after the meeting.
3. Reports from Board Members
 - a. Communications Cathe Waters, Teresa Kraus
Teresa Kraus reported that the October newsletter went out earlier in the month. Mrs. Kraus thanked Glynn Cooksey for assembling the newsletter, and listed the various means the league has for communicating with residents including the web site, entrances signs, Facebook page, and park bulletin board. Teresa added that she is leaving as editor, and that the next issue is due out in April. A resident suggested that the league put out communications regarding the improvements and academy program at Kempsville High School. Another suggestion was to purchase a new accreditation flag for the school.
 - b. Landscaping Programs John Sokolowski
(see next item)
 - c. Neighborhood Watch Program Erik Hart
(see next item)
 - d. Special Projects John Sokolowski
President Sokolowski briefly reviewed the roles of Frank Gewet and Erik Hart, who were not in attendance this evening.

- e. Student Board Associates' Perspectives Jacob Kennedy
Jacob Kennedy reported that he enjoyed working on Party in the Park. Dr. Sokolowski recognized Jacob for his assistance changing out the entrance signs while Frank Gewet was out of town. After listening to Mr. Harris' comments on the academy program, Jacob responded that the associates degree was desirable, yet the travel to Richmond would be a challenge.
- f. Treasurer's Report Cathe Waters
Treasurer Cathe Waters presented the treasurer's report. 129 memberships; invoices to be sent out later this month, goal 225 members. Tremendous donations for Party in the Park from local merchants. Bought MP3 player. Had to reprint October newsletter.

4. Old Business

- a. Open Board Seats John Sokolowski
Dr. Sokolowski reported that the Erik Hart has filled the board vacancy following Greg Turpin's departure earlier in the year. He added that Cathe Waters and Walter Camp are stepping down at the end of this calendar year. Dr. Sokolowski reported that the Treasurer position has been filled; however two open board positions remain, and he solicited interest in these board positions from the residents in attendance.
- b. Party in the Park Erik Hart
Dr. Sokolowski reported that 142 individuals attended this year's Party in the Park, which was viewed as good for rain date. The food was also well received. Dr. Sokolowski thanked the volunteers who helped run the games. Finally, Dr. Sokolowski solicited suggestions for potential improvements for next year's event.
- c. Halloween in the Park Megan Crane
Dr. Sokolowski announced that the Halloween Party will take place this Sunday from 2-4PM in our neighborhood park and will include a costume contest and pumpkin painting.
- d. Web Site John Glenn
John Glenn reported that the civic league web site is currently experiencing technical difficulties, which appear to be software related, contrasted with our earlier issues encountered with our hosting company. Dr. Sokolowski added that the board is pursuing other options for email lists and broadcast mailings.

5. New Business

a. VBCCO Awards

John Sokolowski

Dr. Sokolowski announced that the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations holds and awards dinner every year, and solicited nominations for a resident recognizing contributions to neighborhood or the greater Virginia Beach area.

b. Soccer Net

John Glenn

John Glenn reported that he has reached out to Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation regarding the feasibility and cost to install a soccer goal and net in our park. The current vision is to have this net placed so that it does not interfere with other park amenities and does not cause a disruption in adjacent residences. A resident suggested that BeachFC may have additional information on how to install a soccer goal.

At-large Director Walter Camp reported on a city project to install a bike path along Providence road. A capital funding request has been submitted to cover approximately half of this project.

6. Adjournment

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