

Board of Directors:

*President: Andrew Broyles
Vice President: Grace Moran
Treasurer: Kristie Zeiler
Secretary: Betty Demers
Past President: Rick Mercadante
North Side Rep: Mike Wills
South Side Rep: Tim Solanic
At-Large Rep: Jim Need
At-Large Rep: Todd Parker*



Ocean Park Civic League
P.O. Box 55385
Virginia Beach VA 23471
www.opcl.org

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2017
Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad**

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. and opened by President Broyles leading the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. President Broyles recognized the Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Volunteers. Although the squad was out on a call, the OPCL wanted to recognize them publicly for their service to our community.

David Rose-Carmack was introduced who is running for the Third District House of Delegates.
- III. Officer Wroblewski distributed the crime report. He noted that vehicle larcenies, particularly in the Chix Beach area, have been increasing, and he reminded everyone to lock their vehicles. Officer Wroblewski noted that it is still illegal to walk under the Lesner Bridge, and it is still a dangerous construction site. Violators can be ticketed. There is a new VB police scanner on Facebook, and he asked that anyone who joins be mindful what they post. He then provided details of the carjacking that occurred recently when a car was stolen at Taste Unlimited and later crashed near the intersection of Pleasure House Road and Shore Drive.
- IV. The minutes from the May 5, 2017 general membership meeting were read and approved as written.
- V. Todd Parker presented the treasurer's report in the absence of Kristie Zeiler. \$8400 was set aside from the Robbins' account this year, \$4000 of which is used for the scholarship funding. Printing the newsletters is a fairly large expense, and there will be discussion on digitizing the newsletter later in the meeting. The picnic tables at Brock center are \$1000 @ year. The full report is attached.
- VI. Susie Walston resigned as an at-large rep and Todd Parker was appointed to fill that vacancy. Betty Demers was appointed secretary to fill the slot vacated by Todd.

- VII. President Broyles presented the recommendations that OPCL made to the Bayfront Advisory Committee this summer for the BAC to present to the city. Key areas include storm water management and the initiation of the Shore Drive Phase IV improvements to coincide with the completion of the Lesner Bridge reconstruction.
- VIII. The Louise and George Lyon Memorial Scholarship was discussed. Betty Demers, Scholarship Committee Chair, explained the current requirements and provided information on past recipients. Discussion points included possible removal of the financial need requirement, restricting the scholarship to residents of Ocean Park only, and a suggestion to expand funding to include scholarships for needy children to attend camps. There was an initial motion to maintain the scholarship as written. The motion was seconded and subsequently amended twice. The final motion was to increase the income limit from \$100,000 to \$180,000 and to give preference to Ocean Park residents who apply. The amended motion also included adding accredited vocational schools as an option for students to attend who want to pursue a particular career trade. The amended motion was approved.
- IX. President Broyles has completed the construction of both neighborhood signs. Traffic engineering will put the signs in the median near Croakers and near the Marlin Bay intersection. Thanks to HAV and Crawl Space Door Systems for donations that helped defray the cost of the signs, and to President Broyles for the donation of his time and skill. Some landscaping will need to be done around the signs once they are installed. Both the Mayor and Vice Mayor have agreed to attend a ribbon cutting but a date has not been set. The target date is September 23rd but that will be confirmed as soon as all parties involved commit. Tim Solanic noted that trying to get neighborhood signs for Ocean Park has been a multi-year process and commended President Broyles on being able to facilitate and complete the process.
- X. In correspondence with Mayor Sessoms, the board asked the mayor to consider moving up Phase IV of Shore Drive development to begin at the same time they are finishing the Lesner Bridge. So far the city has agreed to repave in 2018, but has not agreed to any other improvements.
- XI. Terry Gearhart provided an update on the golf cart petition signature drive. He noted that obtaining signatures has been more difficult than he anticipated. He asked that anyone on the north side who is interested in helping out to meet Saturday 5-6 p.m. to launch a signature campaign on the north side.

- XII. Susie Walston presented an update on the city's proposal for a kayak launch at Pleasure House Point. The revised proposal represents a significant reduction in paved parking, lighting, bathrooms, etc. from the original proposal and is based on citizen feedback. Susie thanked the committee members who attended meetings and provided input.

Mary Faust provided an update on the PHP cleanup this Saturday, September 9, at 9-12 at the main trailhead on Marlin Bay. For the first time, A \$25 "trash treasure" will be hidden this year. Mary was thanked for always taking the lead on the cleanup.

- XIII. Linda Barton announced that the Fall Festival is scheduled for October 28th and will probably be in the same location on Surry between Albemarle and Roanoke, 3-6 p.m. More details will follow as soon as arrangements are finalized.
- XIV. One resident asked about how to get no parking signs on streets to keep visitors from parking on the corners. Another member asked about restricting parking on both sides of the street which makes the streets almost impassable for emergency vehicles. William Morgan, 385-1655, is a contact at the city. Everyone was also reminded that golf carts are not allowed on the beach unless the individual has a letter from the city permitting that access. It was also noted that golf carts on the street must obey all traffic laws including no driving under the influence or allowing underage drivers.
- XV. The newsletter cannot be digitized because we do not have email addresses for every resident, and the information we have historically provided advertisers is that every resident will receive a copy of the newsletter. The newsletter can be found on OP Facebook page; OP Neighborhood Page; OPCL website; and NextDoor. It was suggested that we advertise in the newsletter that the paper newsletter will not be distributed. Suggestion is that we print a flier twice a year with social media sites on it to remind residents how to find news. Rick Mercadante shared his opinion that most people in the neighborhood still read the hard copy newsletter, and that many would miss the information if we move to digital. There was a suggestion that we run a pilot program to run alongside the paper newsletter. Another suggestion is to have the newsletter fewer times a year (currently it is printed 5 times a year.) An informal poll of the members present indicated that approximately 10% were in favor of keeping the printed newsletter. The board will discuss at its next meeting and come back to the membership with a proposal.
- XVI. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.