

Ocean Park Echo

Meeting Meeting Meeting

Thursday

Nov. 8

7 p.m.

Ocean Park
Fire and Rescue



Election Night: Vote Nov. 8

Treasurer's Report: Anne Kane

Committee Reports

Bayside Advisory Council: Mike Wills

Citizen's Advisory Council (CAC): Teresa Curtenaz Shore Drive Community Coalition: Anne Kane

Zoning: Mike Wills

Indigo Dunes Opposition: Liz Dyer/Walt Stone

3608 East Stratford Property: Disposition of Proceeds from Sale

*Motion to be made: OPCL will set aside \$25,000 in a money market fund to be used to support the efforts of the Shore Drive Community Coalition (SDCC) in paying for legal fees and other expenses to prevent over-development of Pleasure House Point, as in the proposed Indigo Dunes development. Of these funds, \$15,000 is to be unrestricted and \$10,000 will be earmarked to be dispensed as matching funds in challenge grants contributed by individuals or businesses. These monies may be disbursed as needed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. A Finance Committee will be formed to determine the best recommendations for the remainder of the funds.

Dredging of Western Branch of Lynnhaven: Grace Moran

Packages for the Troops: Pat Mirani Historical Committee: Nadine Hook Nominating Committee: Jim Royall

Election of Officers

Future Programs: Howard Weinberg

Old/New Business

*Amendments to this motion or introduction of any other motions should be submitted in writing prior to the meeting.





Board of Directors

President

Howard Weinberg 363.0277

Vice President

Mike Wills 498.6276

Treasurer

Anne Kane 363.7321

Secretary

Grace Moran 318.9224

Liasons

South Side

Nadine Hook 464.2908

North Side

Jim Royall 363.0460

Three Ships Landing

Pat Mirani 233-2549

Other Representatives

Bryan Ramsey 333-6988 Carol Collins 226.9433

Newsletter Editor

Susan Terpay 318.3953

Webmaster

Jim Royall 363.0460

www.opcl.org

News from the Bayfront

By Mike Wills

- **Dredge Spoils Transfer** Station: The proposed
 - permanent location of a Dredge Spoils Transfer Station at the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp Facility is opposed by many in the neighborhood and fishing community for various reasons including, but not limited to, safety, noise, traffic and bridge deterioration. Ocean Park Civic League Officer Grace Moran expressed her concerns about the project after a presentation by the City's Department of Public Works on plans to build the transfer station recent at a Bayfront Advisory Community meeting at Cox High School. BAC plans to compose a letter to city staff echoing these concerns. If you have comments or concerns, voice those concerns to city staff in Public Works and City Council.
- The New First Landing Fire Station is set to open the first weekend of November with a grand opening celebration tentatively scheduled for Monday, Nov. 12. The fire station now is equipped with a new 105-foot ladder truck. It is anticipated that future BAC meetings will be held there.

- **Design Charette** is scheduled for Nov. 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Virginia Beach VBCC. Only those in attendance via invitation will be allowed to vote on the primarily aesthetic design issues to be discussed. The general public may observe the proceedings without comment as capacity permits.
- **Phase I of Shore Drive Beautification nearly** complete. Virginia Power is slightly behind schedule installing new street lighting. and some additional landscaping may have to wait until the spring because of current drought conditions. Phase IV from Marlin Bay Drive to East Stratford Road is the next highest priority, but it is only funded through the design and right-of-way acquisition phases. As the next budget cycle approaches, we need to keep the need for Shore Drive funding in the spotlight.





Elections: November 8

Ocean Park Civic League Needs Community

he Ocean Park Civic League will elect 2008 officers at its Nov. 8 meeting. Below is the list of candidates who have announced that they will run. need to be filled to keep our organization moving forward. Please take a moment to see if your skills are a good match for any of these positions or committees (see page 11). The jobs don't require a lot of time, and you will be doing a valuable service for your community.

The OPCL meets every other month at 7 p.m. on the 1st Thursday following the 1st Monday of September, November, January, March and May. The executive board meets on There are several key openings that still the off months and consists of the officers, past president, Northside and Southside representatives and 4 at-large representatives.

> **OPCL Nominating Committee** Jim Royall jgroyall@yahoo.com Sid Vaughn esvaughn2@cox.net

Board of Directors

President

Howard Weinberg, (incumbent) Walt Stone

Vice President

Mike Wills (incumbent) **Liz Dyer**

Secretary

Grace Moran

Treasurer **Vacant** Representatives

Northside – Jim Royall (incumbent) Southside - Deb Ford

At-Large Representatives

Anne Kane Vicki Schiano **Bryan Ramsey Pat Mirani**

Howard Weinberg

am running for the office of president. My goals for the next year are as follows:

- 1. Build membership including local businesses
- 2. Balance the budget without resorting to savings.
- 3. Organize the youth of our community.
- 4. Work with the police regarding safety, crime prevention and gangs.
- Reinstitute social activities.

Walt Stone

have lived in Ocean Park since 1989, first as a postcollege renter and then later in 1994, as a proud homeowner.

Lhave loved this area ever since first coming here because of the beach and just plainly, its attractiveness. I am running for President of Ocean Park's civic league along with Liz Dyer's bid for Vice-President, because after so many years of passively attending meetings, I have





Weinberg (Continued from page 3)

- 6. Continue to have guest speakers at meetings.
- 7. Continue to oppose Indigo Dunes by working with the SDCC.
- 8. Continue to oppose the dredging transfer station.
- 9. Continue to work toward Shore Drive issues and the Lesner bridge.
- 10. Rewrite the current bylaws.
- 11. Look toward beautifying Ocean Park.

TREASURER

Grace Moran

have maintained a household in Ocean Park since 1979, living here off and on during that time.

I have had the privilege of serving as an Officer with Howard Weinberg, Mike Wills, Anne Kane and a number of Board liaisons since I was elected Secretary in 2004. I have been nominated to the position of Treasurer being vacated by Anne Kane.

Ocean Park is facing a number of challenges to life as we know it today. Many a change will happen whether we wish it or not. It is incumbent on each of us to involve ourselves to the fullest extent possible to make the change as agreeable to us as we can. Many undesirable changes can be averted, IF WE HAVE THE WILL TO MAKE IT SO.

Hope to see you on November 8th.

Stone (Continued from page 3)

seen the kind of difference we can make in our community and how we can have a very positive effect on elected officials when we come together and speak openly about our desires for this neighborhood and the Bayfront. I am a believer now in this and have seen it first hand.

As the co-leader/committee chair along with Liz Dyer in the campaign against the current number-one threat to the Bayfront: Indigo Dunes, we are committed to seeing a better, safer Shore Drive-Bayfront. As a group of active residents along with Shore Drive Community Coalition, we have been encouraged in leading a successful fight against this development proposal and will continue to do so in the future against anything similar that threatens to undermine our community and the Bayfront.

I formerly was a director of an ambulatory/ outpatient, in-home health services department at CHKD-Barry Robnson Center for 14 years. I left in March 2006 to begin my own homebased/outpatient care business providing intervention services to children and their families experiencing medical and behavioral problems in their homes. I am blessed to be able to do this type of work. I am a triathlon-runner and hunter (archery-shotgun), which is a little strange of combinations but it has mostly to do with being outside. I have a dog, Lucy, who we have ensured is not trespassing when we do our daily "business" walks! Hopefully, that won't always be her greatest worry in the a.m. Thank you for coming out to vote for those who will represent you! I look forward to meeting you and other neighbors who, like myself, are eager to be participants in the future of where we live. Call, 464-2470, or e-mail, WLSVB@aol.com, if you have questions or want to meet and talk for a few minutes.





Vice President

Liz Dyer

am Liz Dyer, a three-year resident of Ocean Park and currently co-chair of our civic league's No Indigo Committee.

In that role, I have been leading the grassroots effort to fight the proposal that would bring an additional 1,100 homes to our community. Circulating petitions, selling T-shirts and signs, attending community meetings and organizing fundraisers, I have been deeply involved in what I consider the most important issue facing our neighborhood and the larger Virginia Beach community. It is for this reason that I now seek election as vice president of Ocean Park Civic League. I am running not to oppose any individual, but to propose a new direction for our group.

Together we face a variety of issues, but paramount among them is the Indigo Dunes proposal. There is no other way to view this issue. If Indigo Dunes is approved as proposed, it fundamentally will alter Ocean Park, bringing traffic, pollution and congestion.

If I am fortunate enough to be elected vice-president. I will devote my full energies to fighting this proposal and assuring the best possible outcome for Ocean Park. Some in the league's current leadership do not share this sentiment. The effort to fight Indigo Dunes needs to be a top priority. It is not just another issue. It deserves and demands a sense of urgency. If elected, that is precisely what I will bring to the debate. And most importantly, I will always listen to you, the members, as we work together to preserve and improve our lovely Ocean Park neighborhood. So I ask for your vote. As a government teacher at Princess Anne High School, a mother and a grandmother, and a longtime community activist, I will bring a perspective and concern to the board that will benefit us all. Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Wills

am Mike Wills, a financial consultant and Ocean Park resident since 2000.

I have been an active member of the civic league since day one and feel very fortunate to have the time that I have been able to devote to bettering our community.

A lifelong resident of South Hampton Roads, my wife and I felt that this would be a great neighborhood to raise a family, and judging from all the strollers many others took note as well. As Ocean Park continues to undergo a rebirth and redevelopment, I feel that my pre-finance career background in residential construction has been an asset to the civic league in the committees I serve and I hope to continue building on our efforts and results in a leadership position as OPCL's Vice President.

Report on Sale of East Stratford Road Property

a result of the sale of the old rescue squad building located at 3608 E. Stratford Road, the Stratford Road Property committee was renamed the Finance Committee and is now tasked with managing the funds generated from the sale.

The sale closed on Oct. 1. Membership participation is needed and ideas are welcome on how to best use the funds to improve our community.





HELP PUT A SMILE ON A SOLDIER'S FACE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq need basic items most of us take for granted every day — toiletries, snacks, reading materials, cards, games, etc. Here's how you can help:

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- or -

Stuff A Gift bag – Fill a 1- or 2-gallon Ziploc bag for an individual soldier and drop it off at one of the drop-off points

- or -

Buy Some Stuff – Buy and/or contribute items

Ocean Park Civic League volunteers will do the rest!

- Assemble miscellaneous items into a Ziploc bag for a soldier.
- Pack, label and seal shipping boxes.
- Ship items to the APO in Afghanistan and/or Iraq for delivery to the remote forward operating bases.

Please include a card, note or child's drawing.
© Our troops love letters from home ©

For a list of suggested, approved items and drop-off locations, or if you have questions, contact Pat Mirani at 233-2549 or tricia0730@cox.net

If you would like to mail a check, address it to:

Ocean Park Civic League P.O. Box 55385 Virginia Beach, VA 23471

Please use "U.S. Armed Forces" in the check memo (do not abbreviate).

Thanks for your help, and if you would like to volunteer for assembling and sealing, let us know!

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Indigo Dunes

City of Virginia Beach to appeal state ruling on Indigo Dunes

ndigo Dunes, the number-one threat to the Chesapeake Bayfront, remains in a legal stall after the City of Virginia Beach filed an appeal to uphold an earlier decision of the Wetlands Board to deny permitting.

Stay tuned as the central campaign of opposition lead by SDCC and all local Bayfront civic leagues continues on course! The community has spoken and made it quite

clear, no more reckless development that poses risk to our vulnerable community and unjustifiably destroys protected resources within our wetland and watershed areas along the Lynnhaven. See

www.NoINdigoDunes.com for update and Chesbayfront-php.tripod.com for a walking tour of the site.

Indigo in Ruins

By Walt Stone Reprinted from The Virginian-Pilot Oct. 21, 2007

won't bother going into detail about why the proposed Indigo Dunes development is so cmpletely out of whack with sensible community planning or any overall public benefit.

Or how this bay front project is an outright defiance of every regulatory guideline to protect vulnerable watersheds and their wetland buffers.

Or how it will set in concrete the trend for Virginia Beach to flout the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act laws if there is enough money behind the momentum.

Check out Chesbayfrontphp.tripod.com or www. NoIndigoDunes.com if you want to know more. You will understand that this wooded wetland area off Shore Drive is more than a few "worthless ditches" in a landscape of "contaminated dredge sites, filled with trash, debris, appliances, junked cars, drug paraphernalia and dog excrement," as the developer has characterized it.

The developer of Indigo Dunes hoped to devalue the area and convince the public that the project would be nothing short of a "revitalization miracle." But the public isn't buying; nor is the city, it appears. In fact, the recent appeal of an overturned wetlands ruling by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission is clear indication that standing laws of protection around wetland areas apply no matter how those wetlands originated — by natural forces, man or miracle. (Continued on page 13)





UPDATES

See the items below for an update on current issues affecting your community:

Board of Zoning Appeals Update:

Three variance requests were made and granted by the Board of Zoning Appeals with no opposition from the civic league as noted below.

- ♦ 3718 Jefferson Boulevard requests a variance to allow 37.5 feet in building height instead of 35 feet in building height, as permitted, to construct a garage underneath a single family dwelling.
- ♦ 3841 Surry Road requests a variance to a 5-foot side yard setback instead of 8 feet, as required, and to a 19-foot rear yard setback instead of 20 feet, as required, for proposed room addition.
- ♦ 2249 Sunvista Drive requests a variance to a 15-foot rear yard setback instead of 20 feet, as required, for a proposed 2-story addition.
- ♦ A meeting was hosted by Pam Lingle on Oct. 11 with Jack Whitney, Director of Planning concerning the process and communication breakdowns which led to some inappropriate clearing and filling of the Raleigh Avenue right-of-way along Lots 1 and 16 on Stratford Road. Whitney agreed to examine the issues of the right-of-way restoration and the exclusion of community input during the process among others.
- ♦ If you would like to express your comments and concerns on any zoning issue concerning Ocean Park, please contact Mike Wills.

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Tickets: Contact Green Parrot Manager Lori @ 460-4640 or Liz @ 425-2123









Join the Civic League today



There are 1,500 households in Ocean Park

Guess how many residents are paid members of the Ocean Park Civic League?

216

Join today.
Dues are only
\$10 per household

Property owners, residents, renters and businesses are eligible to join. Please encourage all your neighbors as well.

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o New <mark>slet</mark> ter Distribution	o Zoning	o Social Events Committee
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Virginia Beach, Va. 23471		





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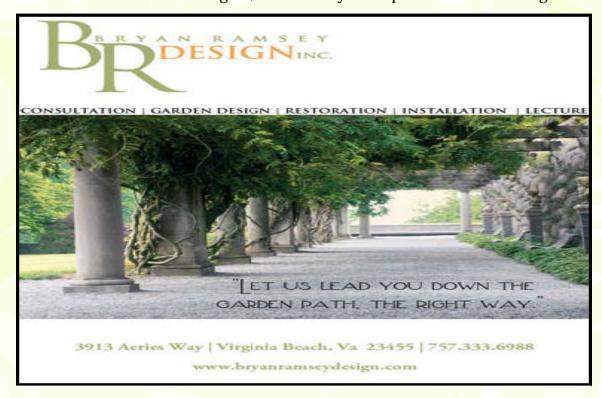
Indigo in Ruins (Continued from page 8)

Ironically, the developer has disparaged the existing "manmade" wetlands within Pleasure House Point to minimize their "natural" value while describing how its new man-made replacement wetlands will be even better. And how they will mitigate any negatives of clear-cutting, bulk heading and dumping enough landfill to raise the ground to a height of 10 feet across 70 acres of wooded wetland. Double talk?

You don't need a Ph.D. in environmental engineering to understand the fallacy of that thinking. Fixing what isn't broken, destroying what is working and then offering, as if it were a gift, to replace an established wetland with newly manufactured ones is wrong.

And if this weren't preposterous enough, the public is asked to believe that untreated and excessive storm water that runs from the adjacent neighborhoods across Pleasure House Point into the Lynnhaven River will now be treated. That will never happen because the storm flow does not move through that property.

The only runoff that is going to be a problem will be that from 1,000 more units and 2,500+ people living on impervious concrete. So tell us again, what exactly is the public benefit of Indigo Dunes?







Vintage Photographs - Ocean Park Lynnhaven Inlet - Chic's Beach & Most Areas of Virginia Beach and Norfolk

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