

**Board of Directors:**

*President: Danny Murphy*  
*Vice President: Andrea Lindemann*  
*Treasurer: Shane Abell*  
*Secretary: Christy Allen*  
*North Side Rep: Natalie McIntyre*  
*South Side Rep: Brian Snyder*  
*At-Large Rep: Jill Doczi*



**Ocean Park Civic League**  
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[www.opcl.org](http://www.opcl.org)

**December 2024 Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**December 5<sup>th</sup> at Brock Center**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Special Guest: Officer Shoenbach, VBPd**

- No crime concerns in our neighborhood other than people leaving car doors open. All of our crimes are down city wide more than 20%.
- Robberies and burglaries and package thefts uptick this time of year. Please be aware of your surroundings! If you are expecting a package, pick it up as soon as possible or ask a neighbor or send it to a secure locker.
- There is a new captain in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, Captain Elliott. We will invite him to a meeting to meet everyone.

Danny alerted the police department about the driver doing donuts in the boat ramp parking lot. Parks and Rec may add more speed bumps and put the taller ones back in. Activity is down in the winter.

The only other concern there was a non-reportable self-inflicted death.

The previous meeting minutes were approved after a motion by Andrea Lindemann and a second by Tim Lindemann.

**Special Guest: Cindy Dufour, Friends of Live Oaks ( FOLO )**

Cindy lives in Baylake Pines.

- The live oak is our official city tree.
- Many of the live oaks are hundreds of years old.
- Considered a maritime tree and designed to protect us from wind. Grows well in sandy soil.
- Drops leaves in the spring but is technically an evergreen. They put out a lot of acorns.
- Animals that depend on live oaks: butterflies, raccoons, squirrels and birds.
- Symbol of safety and strength, provided shelter to African Americans. Cindy shared the story of the emancipation oak on the peninsula near fort Monroe.

- The USS constitution is made of live oak.
  - They are trying to encourage the city to plant live oaks in city areas and parking lots to provide shade. The trees also help with oxygen.
  - The willoughby oak on Norfolk naval station is one of the oldest in Virginia estimated 400-600 years old.
  - Leaves store carbon in the soil and make for healthy soil. You can use the leaves as natural mulch.
- The trees have an extensive root system.
- Having a live oak can increase the property value of your home and can absorb 50 to 100 gallons of water a day so great for water mitigation..
  - More info at [friendsofliveoaks.org](http://friendsofliveoaks.org)
  - \$25 yearly membership gets you a live oak!
  - FOLO is trying to make developers aware that they can work around the live oaks and they will actually enhance their value!
  - Neighbors Tim Solanic and Howard Weinberg are members of FOLO
  - Have a certified arborist trim your tree and help protect the existing live oaks!

## **Treasurer's Report: Shane Abell**

### **2025 Budget**

We are on track budget-wise for the year at \$25,000. We took on some new events this year as well as a new scholarship which is why the budget was higher than last year.

We are going to increase donations by \$500 each to LRNOW, CBF and OPVRS. We added a \$1,000 donation to FOLO after Howard Weinberg's request.

Membership: We are increasing membership dues from \$20 to \$25 for next year.

## **Old Business**

### **Election of Officers**

Slate:

President Danny Murphy

Vice President: Andrea Lindemann

Secretary: Christy Allen

Howard Weinberg nominated Mike Wood for president.

Vice president and secretary slate were voted in unanimously.

The vote for president was taken by written card and online vote. Shane Abell gave the outcome of the vote. There were 28 votes. 19 for Danny Murphy and 9 for Mike Wood. Danny Murphy will continue in the role as president.

### **Social Committee:**

Holiday Happy Hour on Friday 12/6 at Froggies from 5 to 7.

Bike parade Saturday 12/7. We are still working on the parade permit. Starts at rescue squad and will stay on south side.

### **Government Affairs: Danny Murphy**

The PHP Wetlands mitigation presentation at BAC on December 19th at 3:30 pm at the Rescue Squad. Danny encouraged everyone with questions/concerns to attend, as this is a public meeting. Danny has reached out to Lynnhaven River Now and Chesapeake Bay Foundation to ask their opinion on the project. We are hearing there is a vote at city council on January 7th.

Councilman Joash Schulman said he is having the city arborist come out to evaluate.

LOVE sign:

-Partnered with BAC to bring LOVE sign to Shore Drive.

-OPCL involvement- we will take the money in and pay it to the artist.

-This is a student led initiative.

Andrea Lindemann reminded everyone to bring gift cards to the Happy Hour for the kids of CASA. She also gave out door prizes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.