

Notes from last night's CCL meeting 4/6/15.

A quorum was present, meeting commenced at 7 p.m. sharp as everyone in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Bill Garvey, Martha Davenport, Jim Skarbek, Katie Ripberger, Larry Kurtz, Regina Oswald

Absent: George Horvath, Vince Donlon, Debbie Kurtz

A motion was made to approve the March minutes by Martha Davenport, seconded by Jim Skarbek. Neighbors concerned about Croatan Beach were present to discuss the situation and hear from Del. Barry Knight and Councilman Bill De Steph who is currently running for a Senate seat. Bill DeSteph suggested that we continue to work with Dave Hansen of the City and assured us that he will move this matter forward. Barry Knight has met with Tom Pritchard, neighbor, and Ken Jobe to discuss concerns and pushback on this issue which has frustrated him on a number of occasions.

Both gentleman offered to do whatever they could at the state level to help Croatan. Ken Jobe, our immediate CCL past president, was present and will be in attendance at open mic at City Council tomorrow night (meets the 1st Tuesdays of the month) to discuss concerns re sand replenishment and our diminishing beach. Ken shared with the CCL board and neighbors present his thoughts on the situation concerning Croatan Beach, that very basically the beach, in his opinion, is being "squeezed" by the consistent amount of cubic feet being dredged annually yet inconsistent replenishment of sand by Mother Nature. At high water, the beach is so narrow that people head for the dunes which is damaging them. Recommends a long range management study to commence immediately or in 2015 to analyze what about this dredging amount or roughly 250-300 cubic yards/year makes this an optimum amount as well as to explore the perceived needs of beaches north and south. Some neighbors present on S. Atlantic expressed their concerns, one stating that four houses lost their walkways even though no bad storms or hurricanes this year. Also recommended that concerned neighbors attend budget hearings where opportunity to express their concerns is not limited to three people. One upcoming budget hearing to be at 6 p.m. on April 23rd at Green Run High School. Another on April 28th at 6 p.m. in City Council chambers. Efforts to get more people involved through Next Door communication and phone calls to neighbors were proposed.

Jim Skarbek, our treasurer, indicated a deposit of 6k into our security fund and 9K into membership this past month. Our landscaping budget of 6K was not exceeded at @5711 with the balance of 300.00 to be applied towards a one-time expense for additional plantings on either side of Croatan Road at entrance. Also proposed by Cheryl Garvey was a 300/yr annual maintenance budget for items like weed/grass killer and annuals plantings twice per year. Regina Oswald made a motion to accept the proposal for the 300.00 annual maintenance budget, Jim Skarbek seconded it.

A "Croatan Beautification Day" was proposed whereby neighbors could help out with the entrance (weeding, deheading, etc. for ex) Martha Davenport reported that she has personally heard repeated positive feedback from many sources on the new look at our neighborhood entrance since the new plantings.

Also, as part of Jim Skarbek's report was a proposed letter drafted by him as treasurer to deal with any bounced checks payable to CCL which was left out for all to examine. Regina Oswald made a motion to accept the letter, Katie Ripberger seconded it.

Ken Jobe was asked to speak on Lake Christine. Said that it would be recommended that an increase in the city manager's budget for maintenance of lakes and street sweeping be made and that we will likely see an increase in our property taxes. Camp Pendleton will find money through grants and construction devices to improve the drainage and runoff from Camp Pendleton into Lake Christine. Ken stated that the City of Virginia Beach prefers to dredge the lake in significant portions and that there is some support for a SSD to pay for dredging.

Re Spring Fling, June 6, 2015, Bill Garvey is to meet with Larry and Debbie Kurtz who are in charge this year and that all vendors, to date, have been lined up and that CCL is ready to apply for the special events license.

Martha Davenport stated that membership a/o of April 6, 2015:

141 paid members

134 renewals

7 new members

9,805 received in membership dues

7,230 in security funds dues. Our current membership is still deficit 119 members, though many will join at the Spring Fling. Martha proposed that the board reach out through various means.

Of the 141 members, 49 wish to continue to receive the newsletter in regular mail delivery versus email format. Issue re: mailing of newsletter by electronic means is left on hold. Marian Kitchen, neighbor and Croatan webmail manager proposed bulk mail savings if we continue to send newsletters by mail (bulk requires 200 pieces). Martha Davenport suggested getting sponsors for the newsletter. Bill Garvey, president, asked Martha to do a proposal. One neighbor present suggested using several sponsors to avoid hurt feelings.

No report on welcome wagon/logowear though Katie Ripberger, to order ball caps, vizors, and t shirts or other items at her discretion within budget in anticipation of selling them at Spring Fling.

Report on Rudee Inlet Foundation concerning progress of oyster reef installation at the Aquarium was made. Scheduled installation to be some time in May 2015.

No Old/ New Business.

Bob Young, a Croatan neighbor, thanked the CCL for its efforts. AT 8:25 p.m., Regina Oswalt made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Martha seconded it.

Respectfully submitted by,

Katie Ripberger, CCL Board Member for Vince Donlon, Secretary