

**Minutes**  
**Croatian Civic League Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, January 7th, 2025**

**Present:** Mike Kelly, Bob Lougen, Mike Fantozzi, Connie Agresti, Frank Borum, Jim Ferrera, Amanda Robinson, Amber Torgerson, and Eileen Wren.

**Absent:** Pat Costigan, Kathy Donahoe, Cheryl Garvey, Bill Garvey, and Katie Ripberger.

The meeting started with a quorum present at 06:33 PM

**Treasurer's Report**

- The board discussed the current financial situation of the Civic League, noting that as of the end of the year, the combined money for security and the general fund totaled approximately \$34,600.
- The treasurer's report showed 416 member names, an increase from 391 in the previous year, with about 60 new members added in the last three months.
- The neighborhood currently has 262 homes participating out of approximately 500 total homes, representing about 52% of the neighborhood, which is a 0.7% increase from the previous year.

**Security**

- Results of the security survey were presented along with proposed plans for the upcoming year.
- The decision was made to continue with the current approach of having officers perform both presence and patrol duties.
- Full-time private security guards were ruled out due to cost constraints.
- Automated systems were considered, but no decision was made on implementation.
- Current security measures will continue, including encouraging the use of home security systems and reflective clothing at night.
- A proposed budget spreadsheet with hours was sent out, including a 10% increase in costs.
- Plans were made to meet with the Citizens Advisory Board and police chiefs in February to discuss potential rate increases.

**Membership and Directory**

- Extensive discussions took place regarding membership goals and dues for the upcoming year.
- Confidence was expressed in increasing membership by 9% by the end of the year without raising dues.
- A vote was taken to keep dues the same at \$80 per household (or couple) and \$45 for singles.

## **Budget for 2025**

- Discussions took place regarding the social events budget and plans for the upcoming year.
- \$12,000 for social programs was requested, up from the previous year's \$8,600.
- Four events outside of Spring Fling are planned, including Beachside Social, Chico's, Warriors, and potentially an event at Smart Mouth Brewery.
- Using a resident's property for a meet-and-greet event was considered as cost-effective option.
- The annual meeting was discussed, with an agreement to continue charging a small fee to ensure attendance.

## **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Town Hall**

- Organizing a town hall meeting in February or March was proposed.
- Potential topics include security, beach access, and updates on Lake Christine.
- Police representatives will be invited to attend and answer questions.
- Allowing residents to submit questions in advance to better prepare for the discussion was considered.
- Logistics of the meeting, including venue and timing, were briefly discussed, with a preference for a weeknight at 6:30 PM.

## **New Business**

- Potential new volunteers for community activities, including a walking club and other initiatives, were mentioned.
- Updates were provided on efforts to get Trex pathways to the beach, with ongoing discussions with local officials and Dominion Energy.
- A Dominion Energy meeting was announced for the 16th at the South Aquarium building.
- The current newsletter editor is moving from the neighborhood and the need for a new editor were discussed. Amber Torgerson has tentatively volunteered.
- Brief discussions touched on issues related to Lake Christine, including potential future studies and improvements.

## **Meeting Conclusion**

- The meeting concluded at 8:30 PM, with the president expressing appreciation for the board members' participation and input.