**LAKE SHORES CIVIC LEAGUE GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: September 27, 2016, 7:00 p.m. (social), 7:30 p.m. (meeting) Meeting Room 6

of the Bayside Recreation Center. Fifteen people signed in plus those who did not.

Date of next General Meeting: November 15, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Social, 7:30 p.m. Meeting

**Our Purpose:**

The purpose of this organization shall be to bring together for mutual benefit, those persons who are interested in civic betterment of any kind. It shall be operated along democratic lines, having no political affiliation, and being non-sectarian in the matter of religion

**Opening**

Frank Pogue led us in the Pledge of Allegiance then delighted us with a joke.

Paul Berryman welcomed us then conducted our meeting.

**Guest Speaker**

Our guest speaker is Mr. Jerald D. Banagan, ASA

Office of Real Estate Assessor

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Properties for Sale:

* The percentage of the assessment vs. the sales price is 95 percent.
* Over 30,000 properties are in Virginia Beach.
* Assessments are complete every January, sent to owners in March, and due in July.
* The average home in Virginia Beach is $284,000.
* The average home in Lake Shores is $285,000.
* Our assessment is 99 cents per $1000.000, the highest in the region.
* Lake Shores: Lake Shores, Shenstone Green, Amphibious Manor
* Assessments in Virginia Beach do not drop as much as nationwide at 6l5 percent.
* Lake Shores went up 1.6 percent.
* The City has 24 appraisers for 142,000 houses.
* If a neighborhood has no turnover, a similar neighborhood is used for assessment.
* The assessor’s office relies heavily on the Multiple Listing Service.
* Appraisers come to the site when a home is built.
* The City offers a relief program for Senior Citizens and for the disabled.
* Assessors can take a second look at a home.
* To challenge an assessment, call the office, ask for an assessor for Lake Shores.
* We can appeal to the Board of Equalization appointed by the Court, fill out the form.
* Most are commercial properties.
* Appraisers walk through the property, inside and out.
* A Civic League member asked Mr. Banagan for help regarding and the increase in noise from trucks braking, etc. following the cutting of foliage along Northampton Blvd.
	+ When the new tunnel opens (Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel) traffic will increase.
	+ With loss of foliage, visual pollution from lights at the Mansard Apartments.
	+ The increase is a quality of life issue for residents.
	+ Mr. Banagan will look at the loss of foliage, noise, traffic.
	+ We also have an increase in traffic through Lake Shores following the opening of the new gate at Little Creek.

**Meeting in November**

* We will bring to formal vote the request to appropriate $100.00 from the treasury for a Christmas party.
* Jim and Mary offer their home for the party.
* Jim will be Santa Claus.
* The yard will be decorated for Christmas.
* Refreshments will be available.
* Parents can take children for a surprise walk to visit Santa at the Brinkman’s.
* More details will be available at the November meeting.
* We should let our neighbors know of the party – bring children.

**Christmas Light Contest**

* Recommend three categories for prizes.
* More info will be available at the November meeting.

**Donation of Chesapeake Beach Fire and Rescue**

* In 1982 the Civic League donated $25.00 at the death of a member of the Civic League.
* The account was depleted due to many deaths.
* In November, we can bring to vote a quarterly donation for all who passed away during the quarter.
* We will consider the proposal and the amount to donate.

**VBCCO**

# The next Neighborhood Conference will be on Saturday, October 29, from 8:30 to 2:30 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, the topic: *VBCCO Neighborhood Conference: Meeting the "Special Needs" of Our Community* [by Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vbcco-neighborhood-conference-meeting-the-special-needs-of-our-community-tickets-27389006255#listing-organizer)

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**New Business**

* Drivers are not stopping at the Shelton Park stop sign.
* We must not assume drivers will stop.
* A police car sporadically monitors the stop sign.
* Pedestrians congregate at the intersection of School and Curling Roads.
* Vehicles are parked illegally.
* Vehicles cannot get through.
* Credit to Rick – Cars are not parked on the sidewalk.
* The Shelton Park Principal could send a memo.
* Perhaps additional parking could be provided.
* The $100,000 spent on the flags in the medians could have been used for other needs: ambulances, sound wall.

**Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Report**

* Topic: Mosquito Control
* How to clean ditches
* Avoid standing water
* Take care of drainage issues
* Call PWC Mosquito Control Division
* Items most stolen: jewelry, firearms, drugs
* Burglars hit the medicine cabinet first.
* Rick has engravers available for neighbors to borrow.
* According to Captain Orr, we have quite a few car break-ins.

**Neighborhood Watch Planning**

* We tried to keep info on NextDoor.
* The disadvantage – NextDoor is not nationwide.
* Rick will re-do the database of approximately 640 residences in Lake Shores.
* Rick will re-zone our neighborhood, color-coded by zones then give to MPO Nieves.
* Fifteen to twenty years ago, we could not recruit enough people for Neighborhood Watch.
* The neighborhood first must be laid out in zones before we can delegate.
* Static: observe and report
* Structural Awareness: watch what is going on while walking, etc.
* Using E-Pro (vbgov.com/epro) anyone can look up crime in the neighborhood, resembles a bank statement.
* Crimes in Lake Shores: Hit and run; fraud; domestic simple assault; burglary in an empty house family member kicked in the door took contents of house; juvenile prank at Curling and School Roads.
* Virgil area line of sight – 400 feet should be clear.
* The average speed is 55 MPH leaving the Base.
* Foliage was over the top of the sidewalk, from the light pole back to the Base.
* Ten feet of foliage was cut back on City property, hopefully giving 370 feet line of sight.
* The City is considering a new Website to replace NextDoor.

**Drone**

* Report to police, the FAA.
* The police will trace the drone.
* Unregistered drones are a violation.

**Bayfront Area Commission**

* State Senator Frank Wagner, candidate for Governor, said he would get a sound wall along Northampton.
* Jim will prepare to take to City Council.
* Parks and Recreation can landscape.
* Signs could be installed: “No Stopping or Standing” --- “No Engine Braking”
* The City has not followed through.
* Jim will notify Mr. Davenport and the press.

**Adopt a Street**

* We will meet on Saturday, October 1, at 9:00 a.m. at the Pump House.

**Old Business**

* Our next Board Meeting will be on October 23
* Thank you to Jim and Mary who hosted the National Night Out at short notice in their front yard.
* We had a good turnout and gained new members.
* Good presence with Police, thanks to Rick.
* We plan to do this again.

**Financial Report**

* Our balance as of July 29 is $776.38
* At National Night Out – dues total $40.00
* Our balance as of August 31 is $816.38

The motion was made to adjourn – all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeanne Marie Macdonald*