**LAKE SHORES CIVIC LEAGUE GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: September 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (meeting) Meeting Room 6

of the Bayside Recreation Center. Thirty-two neighbors signed in. Our next General Meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2017.

**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**

Our President, Jim Brinkman opened the meeting.

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

**Guest Speaker**

Our guest speaker was Fred Rellis, Code Enforcement Supervisor, City of Virginia Beach.

<https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/housing-neighborhood-preservation/code-enforcement/Pages/default.aspx>

Four divisions.

1. Administration ~ issues paychecks, etc.
2. Voucher ~ Section 8 Rental Assistance
3. Housing Development ~ Low interest loans, for homeowners, HUD Continuum of care. The Housing Resource Center will be on Witchduck Road; Social Services on the top floor assists those who live paycheck to paycheck; Intake Training; Help with interviews/ resumes; the building should open next Fall
4. Code Enforcement ~ (not permits & zoning); new permits are issued; involves use of property, residential apartments, industrial, such as Cleveland Street.

Businesses, such as a hair salon, in a residential area can serve only one person at a time.

Code Enforcement involves zoning; such as in residential areas: inoperative vehicles, recreational vehicles, commercial vehicles

In a residential area, one commercial vehicle is allowed: 20 feet long, seven feet high, one-ton carrying capacity.

Now F-150s are one ton capacity.

The code was written in the 1980s.

Box trucks are not allowed.

One pickup truck or van with signage is allowed.

Recreational vehicles must be parked at the back of the property.

Currently the department has 20 inspectors.

After three notices, a summons is issued.

Inspectors have police powers.

Maintenance Codes involve maintaining a property.

Virginia Beach became a City in 1963.

The Department started in the mid-1970s.

Most homes in Lake Shores were built in the late 50s and during the 60s.

Most housing stock in Virginia Beach is relatively new.

Programs:

Rental Inspection ~ Started in 1989 ~ Inspectors go in during rental changes

Inspections make the property safe.

Rental agents allow renters to live in unsafe houses.

As Inspectors have Police Powers, violators will have a record.

Three Inspectors are Section 8 Inspectors.

After storms they access damage.

Before storms, preparation, how to respond, involves public utilities, etc.

Most common violation is overgrowth of vegetation.

From May to November, most common is overgrowth, junk, weeds

The Ordinance allows grass to be 10 inches high.

Houses are boarded up; a bill is sent to the owners; after 30 days, a lien is on property then sold.

The money goes into a fund.

A contractor boards up and repairs houses in violation.

More contractors are needed.

Labor intensive

Boarding House: Only four unrelated allowed, each person to have 70 square feet of living space.

Overcrowding is hard to prove.

The Health Department inspects motels once a year.

Call Commercial & Residential, the Department will inspect all properties.

Parking vehicles on lawns is legal in Virginia Beach.

Roadways must be clear to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

Shipping containers, such as POD are issued a thirty-day permit

If used as a shed, must be set back on property.

Illegal to park on lawns in Norfolk

To report violations, visit City website Code Enforcement, Department of Housing & Neighborhood Preservation.

Give the address; Reports are anonymous unless one prefers to leave his or her name.

Also, report via e-mail or phone.

The main number is 757-385-4421.

A supervisor is on duty.

President Jim thanked Mr. Rellis.

**Neighborhood Watch**

Vehicle larcenies are our main concern, three since June

A Simple Assault reported on Lake Shores Road

Driving into yards reported

Always lock vehicles.

Not an overabundance of larcenies to vehicles, keep them locked.

If the vehicles are known to be kept unlocked, the perpetrators will return.

Line of Sight: Dodie & Rick talked to an engineer.

We have photos of a car turned upside down on Independence.

The engineer stated the accident was not due to the line of sight.

Rick: We should make the area as safe as possible.

Be careful entering Independence from Shelton Road.

The average speed on Independence is 53 MPH.

Report to Rick via e-mail or NextDoor to report signs down, etc.

The City will replace the same or next day.

Still finalizing to improve Neighborhood Watch.

Maps are drawn of Lake Shores.

Keeping database current, difficult due to neighbors moving.

We should have new guidelines this year.

We have Block Captains.

The old system had one block captain for every ten houses.

We re-drew the maps.

May people volunteered.

We will give them a job in their section.

Jim, Rick, & Craig will post on NextDoor.

Using NextDoor, we simply post to report break-ins, etc.

Info goes directly to Rick.

We must keep NextDoor informational based.

NextDoor is the quickest way for Rick to keep informed.

NextDoor augments Neighborhood Watch.

The new system is simplified.

One Co-ordinator: Rick,

Rick reads posts on NextDoor

70 to 75 percent of our neighbors use a computer.

We will return to the phone tag system or to texting to send alerts.

**Old Business**

Yard Sale

Jim thanks Mike & Tina for organizing the yard sale in July.

Due to the heat, balloons popped.

Fourteen signed up.

We plan another yard sale in the Spring.

National Night Out

Was held on August 1 at the Brinkman home.

40 people attended.

Lots of participation by the Third Precinct.

Dog Friendly ~ Water bowls

**New Business**

On September 12, five members of the Lake Shores Civic League Board met with

Mr. Phillip D. Pullen, P.E., Transportation Division Manager, Katie E. Shannon, P.E., Project Support Office Manager; and two contractors

Department of Public Works

City of Virginia Beach, City Engineer’s Office

[Please see business cards on last page.]

Re: Upon our resolution in June to perform a Sound Study, direct City Manager to do a Sound Study.

We received advanced protocol.

Out of seven areas, Lake Shores is Number One.

General Process:

Long-term sound study

Twenty-four hour sound study

Contractors flew in, placed sound monitor on Regina Lane.

The City sent five letters to neighbors, received four responses to allow monitoring on property, an indication of engagement.

The monitor was placed yesterday (September 18) on the same site as in the article in the *Virginia Beach Beacon.*

Monitoring will be for 24 hours.

Rain affected the sound study.

The same crew is monitoring Lake Shores as well as other sites.

This is the first step in the process.

This step will identify the noisiest period.

Info is fed into a model.

Traffic counts also are taken.

The large silver boxes along Northampton count traffic.

Info is sent to Virginia Department of Transportation.

Speed, weight, volume

Letters will be sent to residents of Lake Shores to approve the sound wall.

Warranted: Our request is warranted. We should be all right, based on data.

Feasible: Will affect storm water management, old Norfolk Southern Railway, Dominion Energy

Vertical power lines, Northampton Boulevard (highway)

Wanted: Do residents of Lake Shores want the sound barrier.

Risk: Residents may have to give up four-to-five feet of private property.

May would happily give up five feet.

Height – the highest is feasible

Length – to be determined

Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel: tolls are based on axles; a source of data re: traffic

Lake Shores has information and facts, asked good questions, done research, talked to our guests during our General Meeting in May.

Time Line:

January 1, 2018 begins the State Budget Development Cycle

The final report for our sound study is December 20, 2017.

**Minutes**

All approved the minutes as read from our General Meeting on May 23.

**Adopt a Street**

We will meet at the Pump House on Saturday, September 23, at 9:00 a.m.

Bring gloves and boots

In the event of rain, we will re-schedule.

**NextDoor**

Lake Shores was honored on NextDoor for our November Food Drive.

**Upcoming Events**

Halloween: Planning a haunted house, a safe evening for children, four or five houses “going all out” decorating, children will be safe, provide a drop off, volunteer your home on NextDoor, a event to remember, we are all kids at heart

Volunteers to be zombies, pirates, etc.

Ride through the neighborhood on golf carts at 25 MPH or less after dark with headlights

Tina will hold a meeting to manage Halloween in Lake Shores.

The motion was made to authorize $100.00 from the Treasury for Halloween Party at the Binkmans – approved and seconded.

All are in favor.

None oppose.

**Treasurer’s Financial Report**

May 31, 2017 Balance $822.24

Deposit 5.00

June 30, 2017 Balance 827.24

No Activity

July 31, 2017 Balance 827.24

Deposit 237.00

August 31, 2017 Balance 1064.24

Two Checks Outstanding:

#1008 $10.00 Donation SPCA Yard Sale Item

#1009 90.74 Brinkman Reimbursement

National Night Out -- Collected $30.00 for Dues

Yard Sale - $ 20.00 -- Donated Item

40.00 -- Dues

147.00 -- Participation in Yard Sale

Total $237.00 -- August Deposit

**New Business**

Our neighbors in Gardenwood invited Lake Shores to a BBQ on September 30 with cornhole and other contests.

An informational flyer is available on the table this evening.

From Jim, “thank you’ to Craig for inviting our speaker.

Complaints are found on NextDoor about yards.

Any suggestions for speakers, contact Jim or Craig or post on NextDoor

The property on Jack Frost is mowed.

Read orange signs posted in the neighborhood, be engaged.

The motion was made to adjourn – approved and seconded.

All are in favor.

None oppose.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeanne Marie Macdonald*

###### C:\LSCL\2017-10-09\Mr. Pullen & Ms. Shannon.TIF