

Shore Drive Community Coalition

Minutes for the February 28, 2011 General Meeting

Submitted by David Williams

Meeting Location: Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Meeting Hall

Meeting Start: Called to order at 7:35 pm by David Williams. 5 attendees.

Thomas Cantwell, VP of SDCC was absent due to a business meeting.

Todd Solomon, Secretary of SDCC was absent due to previously scheduled meeting.

Officer's Reports:

President David Williams distributed the minutes from the January 31, 2011 meeting which were read and approved with no corrections.

Treasurer Carol Collins reported no change to the current bank balance (Checking \$5,737 + \$2,285 Special Projects = \$8,022 total).

Presentations: President David Williams gave a presentation on the "State of the Neighborhoods Spring 2011". **SDCC Goals for 2011:** David outlined the SDCC Goals for 2011 as: Safety for our Neighborhoods and Roads, Improving Communications, City Support for the Military Mission in Virginia Beach, Quality of Life Issues, and Improving Collaborations.

Old Business

Shore Drive Safety Issues. After conferring with several city officials concerning the present 35 mph speed limit, he was told that the present speed limit would not be changed for now from 35 mph. More study would be required to further identify safety issues impacting traffic speed. He then stated that the following safety issues were of concern and would require SDCC effort; improvements needed in the present Commonwealth Crosswalk laws, community Hurricane Preparedness, and needed military and civilian interface in an area disaster.

Marina Shores Marina Expansion. David then discussed the proposed Marina Shores Marina expansion (floating docks to provide 45 boat slips to accommodate larger boats (50+ft.) east along Long Creek of their present marina's location. Numerous civic groups have opposed this expansion for many reasons including, zoning issues, damage to the environment and estuary, safety concerns for boaters, and increased flooding dangers for the Cape Story By the Sea and Cape Henry Shores subdivisions. Numerous letters have been sent to the Mayor and City Council members expressing local concerns. The present business owner of Marina Shores Marina, Ms. Levine Higgs has withdrawn her application, but is expected to resubmit at a later time.

State Transportation Funding. The Commonwealth of Virginia has funded the Lesner Bridge replacement. Construction should start construction within 5 years but could possibly be starting within the next 12-16 months. The northern alignment for the bridge has been selected. All four traffic lanes are required to remain open during the new bridge construction as this is a needed major traffic route for the northern part of Virginia Beach. Capital Improvements along Shore Drive have been partially funded. CIP 3 (east side of the Lesner Bridge) has been funded, but sidewalks will not be installed until completion of the Lesner Bridge. CIP 4 (west side of the Lesner Bridge) has not been funded. Councilman Wood stated that any excess funds from previous projects would be applied to CIP4.

Pleasure House Point Funding. Pleasure House Point fundraising efforts continue trying to acquire approximately \$4 million dollars for the remaining track (approximately 10 acres). In partnership with the Trust for Public Land, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and various other private donors, this ten acre portion remains unfunded. Currently, a legal issue which surfaced in August remains to be resolved between a former owner and Wells Fargo Bank.

Meeting Adjourned- 8:25pm. Motion made by Marty Schulman and 2nd by Empsy Munden. Approved unanimously.