

Minutes from 25 JAN 2016  
Presented 29 FEB 2016  
Shore Drive Community Coalition General Meeting  
Submitted by David Williams

Meeting location: Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Station Meeting Hall  
Meeting start: Called to order at 7:35 by President Todd Solomon  
Total Attending 24

Special guests: Mr. Jason Wilson, City Project Manager, Public Works Planning  
Mr. David Jarmon, City Project Manager, Public Works

**Officers' reports:**

Secretary David Williams submitted the minutes from the 21 DEC 2015 SDCC meeting. Minutes approved unanimously with no corrections.

Treasurer Kathy Pawlak submitted her report- ending balance Checking \$7,133.75 and Special Projects accounts \$1,499.55 as of January 25, 2016. **Member's dues paid 26**

Vice President Wally Damon discussed some issues presented at the Bayfront Advisory Commission (BAC). Event Tax imposed by Virginia Beach may now be waived for civic organizations that are 501-C-4 type organizations. Civic group files may file for IRS 501-C-4 status with the IRS, receive a tax identification number, and then request a tax exemption with the city. This will save the 10% that was previously taken from that civic group's event ticket receipts.

Lynnhaven River Now (LRN) has accumulated 80 communities and organizations opposing the proposed offshore drilling. Those organizations believe that the benefits of offshore drilling are not comparable to the possible negative consequences and potential environmental damage that could result from the inevitable oil spills. The U.S. Coast Guard has recorded 9,800 incidents of oil spills from platforms in the Gulf of Mexico in the last 5 years. Off shore drilling was recently supported by our City Council, but after further review and in light of more incident data, the City Council has changed their support to neutral position pending further study.

The city is accepting comments on the new proposed Comprehensive Plan 2016. This is the city's strategic plan for the next five years and will serve as the basis for the city's directions and efforts of the Mayor and City Council. To review the proposed Comprehensive Plan, go to [VBGov.com](http://VBGov.com) > government > departments> Planning> Comprehensive Plan 2016.

**New Business**

President Todd Solomon, under new business, discussed the proposed bus routes connecting the Oceanfront with Shore Drive. Two separate routes were proposed; one for daytime operations and the other for nighttime, both between Memorial and Labor Day. As you remember, SDCC submitted the results of our survey to determine public interest in the proposed new routing. After much discussion between the city and Hampton Roads Transit, it now appears that the additional bus routes were not feasible and will probably not be implemented.

The proposed Marina Shores development was discussed. The developer, Brad Waitzer will discuss the project at the Cape Story by the Sea civic meeting 8 February. He proposes removing the marina's 530 dry slips, shop spaces, show room, and wedding facility and building two buildings of four stories for 261 upscale rental

properties. He states that the current economic environment supports rental properties more than condo sales.

### **Guest Speakers.**

Mr. Jason Wilson from Virginia Beach Public Works Department was introduced to the discuss Phase III (CIP 2.117). This project will include upgrades to traffic signals, city water lines, and the curb and guttering for four lanes of traffic. The 60% design phase was completed June 2011, but the project had stalled pending the completion of the new Lesner Bridge. The \$16M project will use current storm water outflows and not include any new pump structures. Bike and walking lanes in both directions will be included. The project will require the removal of live oaks at Page St. and Shore Drive. The median will be reduced from 6 feet to 4 feet to permit the four lanes with the two 5 foot bike lanes. The 90% design phase is expected to be completed by August 2016. The Phase III project is scheduled to start May 2018 with two years for completion.

Ms. Mercedes Holland introduced herself to the gathering. She is the new Community Plans & Liaison Officer for Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek/Ft. Story. She discussed her role with the local community and the military. She briefed us on the military's concerns with sea-level rise and said that DOD had recently allocated \$1M for a grant to study the impact of flooding on the NS Norfolk and JEB bases.

Ms. Mercedes announced that 21 May 2016 would be the 100-year anniversary for Ft. Story. An anniversary celebration will take place with period actors, vintage military equipment and displays. Ft. Story will be open to the public.

A motion to adjourn was submitted and approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Submitted:

David Williams  
SDCC Secretary