NORTH VIRGINIA BEACH CIVIC LEAGUE NEWS







North Va. Beach Civic League Post Office Box 1676 Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Website: www.nvbcl.org

APRIL 2010

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

General Membership

April 27, 2010 July 20, 2010 October 19, 2010

June 8, 2010 September 14, 2010 December 14, 2010

Board of Directors

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the ARE library auditorium at 67th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending. We hope to see you there.

A NOTE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

The warmth of an April afternoon takes center stage as spring ushers in her peaceful reprieve from the wet, snowy winter along the Mid-Atlantic coast. The bare trees and cold winds give way to the blossoms of azaleas and dogwoods. This beauty combined with the sounds of chickadees' and cardinals in our backyards reminds us of the splendor of living at the North End of Virginia Beach.

It is my pleasure to join the past leadership of the NVBCL on the structured path of a well run Civic League. Dave Jester's guidance has allowed for a smooth transition. The success of our historical accomplishments and watchful eyes on current events within our neighborhood continues with the Board members. Committee reports will be given at the Civic League meetings. The March event in our neighborhood, the Shamrock Marathon 2010 brought an amazing 20,000 runners from 50 states and over 10 foreign countries.

We will have two guest speakers at the April 27th meeting. Dan Adams, with VB Public Works/Coastal Engineering will provide an update on the North Beach Drainage Project. Nancy Perry-Marscheider will share a brief overview of the VB International Student Outreach Program. Jason Eversole, the Community Planning Liaison Officer with the Joint Expeditionary Base, Little Creek – Fort Story will be attending our meetings and providing updates from Captain Stuppard when there is information to share. We welcome your attendance and participation.

J. Kimberly Goold, Board President

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH 2010 BOARD MEETING:

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of March 9, 2010, there is \$2,064.16 in our checking account, \$18,405.91 in our money market account, and our certificate of deposit totals \$21,443.68. Total assets are currently \$41,913.75. If you wish to join and be added to our email notification list, please use the enclosed envelope to pay your 2010 dues of \$15.00 and be sure to include your email address. Please check the mailing address section on the back page of this newsletter to see if you have already paid your 2010 dues.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

On Saturday, May 1st from 9am to 12 noon, the civic league is sponsoring a Neighborhood Beautification Day. Our goal is to start the season with a clean median, feeder road and beach access ways, while at the same time raising awareness of the importance of cleaning up after our pets and the impact on the storm water system when it's not done. We're looking for about 25 volunteers who will cover 2 blocks each. People can contact Mark Chase at 395-7475 or <u>chasemark@msn.com</u> to sign up. You can also sign up at our April 27th general meeting.

Jim Spruance reports that he is in the process of doing an inspection with the supervisor at Resort Landscape, and they will assess the Live Oaks and schedule pruning where needed. Due to the economy, the City is not in a position to currently replace cactus in any of the beds, nor will any Oleanders be cut back unless they are damaged or look unsightly.

ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE (ZRC)

The ZRC is working with developers on expansion/modifications of non-conforming uses. We know of four future projects that will be reviewed where the developer is renovating an older home and requesting to renovate/expand an existing secondary structure in the rear of the property. This was successfully done recently at 211-70th street and 203 – 69th Street which was supported by the adjacent residents and zoning committee. This is a new approach versus tearing down an older cottage with detached garage apartment and replacing with a big-box duplex. The ZRC feels this is a much better way to preserve the character of our neighborhood in light of the fact that there is no answer to "by-right" duplexes in our zoning district. Several members of the NVBCL ZRC met with the planning department on March 17th to discuss the process and next steps to modify our zoning ordinance to allow this type of re-development "by-right". We are working towards establishing both the R5R zoning district between 50th Street and 89th Street, and the R7.5 zoning district between 42nd Street and 49th Street as a special overlay district. This special overlay would take the applicable sections of the Old Beach District Design Guidelines and synthesize them with our neighborhood. Stay tuned for updates about this great planning opportunity for our area.

LASKIN GATEWAY PROJECT

The Laskin Gateway Project - Phase One is now under construction. Martin Waranch and Billy Almond are representing the NVBCL on the Citizens Advisory Committee for the project. All construction will be complete for this phase by May and work will resume in the Fall for the next phase. Please go to the City website for daily updated information regarding the project. Their website is located at <u>www.vbgov.com/laskingateway</u>. All relevant information, including project schedule and the latest designs, are posted on the right hand side of the web page under *"related documents"*.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.NVBCL.ORG

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

61st STREET PUMP STATION

Dan Adams, the City's Public Works/Coastal Engineering representative reports the storm water pump station project continues on schedule as we enter the spring season. Members of your NVBCL board recently met with City Staff and the private architectural firm hired by the City to discuss the storm water pump station above ground building and its design. Two of our North End residents, Duff Kliewer and Gerrie West, donated their time and architectural skills to review some minor re-design details to the pump station building with City representatives. Gerrie and Duff's input will be incorporated into new CAD drawings as the final details of this building are completed.

Work on 55th Street is nearing completion and the road will be resurfaced the week of April 5th - weather permitting. Storm drain installation will be underway along Atlantic Avenue until mid-May. Also during the week of April 5th, construction of the storm water pump station in the median of Atlantic Avenue just south of 61st Street will begin. The feeder road at 61st Street will be open to local and pedestrian traffic only during this construction phase of the pump station. NO WORK WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE TRAVEL LANES OF ATLANTIC AVENUE DURING THE SUMMER SEASON (FROM MID-MAY UNTIL THE END OF OCTOBER).

The ocean outfall construction is underway on the beachfront and work will be progressing offshore throughout the summer months. The beach access at 61st Street and north/south along the beachfront will be maintained throughout the construction process.

DOME SITE ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

The City has granted an exclusive agreement for preliminary conceptual design, program development, and economic analysis of a new entertainment venue for the Dome site to Leisure and Recreation Concepts, Inc. (LARC) of Dallas, Texas. An update on the conceptual design was presented to the VB Economic Development Authority as well as the Resort Advisory Commission on Friday, March 26th. Earlier in 2009 the developer was granted a nine month extension until April 2010 to allow adequate time to secure financing. The project is still active and it is anticipated that the project may move forward in 2010. You can learn more about the development company at http://larcinc.com.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL PROJECT

Garfield –Traub Development was selected to continue the submission process for the headquarters hotel. You may view Garfield-Traub Development's website at http://www.garfieldtraub.com, click on "developments" then "hospitality". Both Hyatt and Marriott are keenly interested in this project which is essential to the long term success of our convention business. Conventions bring business to the resort primarily in the shoulder and winter seasons which are vital to the long term success of our hospitality and restaurant industries. The height limitation set by the FAA with respect to the radar facility at Oceana continues to be an issue. The FAA has recently appointed a representative to work with the City to address this issue.

VA. BEACH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM (VB ISOP)

Coordinated by the Virginia Beach Hotel-Motel Association, the VB ISOP is a community effort to help international students experience a safe and enriching experience as possible while working in the resort area this summer [May-August]. More information is on our website, and you can reach the VB ISOP directly at 428-8015 or email them at info@vbhma.com.

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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 DUES?

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2010-2011					
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