

**Tunbridge Station Civic League
Community Meeting Minutes
Nov 8th, 2023
TowneBank Meeting Room**

Attendance: 20

Board Members Present: Rob Mulvihill, Jeff Eaton, and Kelly Martinec – Amiee Mulvihill filled in to take minutes on behalf of Amanda ZiegenfussD

Board Members Absent: Amanda Ziegenfuss

Meeting Called to Order: 7:03pm

I. Welcome – President

II. Minutes – July: approved – 1st the approval Mark Simmons & 2nd the approval Doug Lowrey

III. Vice President:

- Introduce Police Captain Williams to discuss the train trestle tragedy and how it impacts the community.
- Introduce our resource officer MPO Mark Noble for safety reports.

Meeting Minutes:

Captain Williams addressed the attendees on the following:

- Tressel is manually lifted.
- All memorial signs have been taken down and new signs have been posted “NO TRESPASSING”.
- City Attorney’s reviewed the Virginia Code related to the railroads. Police can arrest trespassers and prosecute violators.
- Walking on rail tracks is illegal.
- If you see anyone walking on tracks or side of tracks towards trestle to call the police.
- Railway changing trestle access.
- Only Dominion and Railroad companies are allowed on tracks and trestle.
- City of Chesapeake Police have placed their lock on the fence.
- Railroad company will maintain grass on behalf of the police for ease of access.

Resource Officer:

- Open Questions from Neighborhood on safety

Officer Noble addressed the attendees on the following:

- Police Dept. has not received a whole lot reports this past year from surrounding neighborhoods to Tunbridge Station.
- Odor issue at front entrance, police and fire departments were called – issue was oil can dump.
- Neighbors are upset with speeding on Back Road especially in the morning by commuters not wanting to wait in school zone back up on Mt. Pleasant Road. Officer Noble recommended the Traffic Calming Program.
 - Steps in the Traffic Calming Program
 - Letter from Civic Leagues / HOA’s and petition from neighborhoods.
 - If accepted, speed data gathering, speed tables (noisy), speed limit fine signage.
 - Enforcement efforts by police.
 - Include the local elementary school PTA for additional support.

**Concerns of the Mt. Pleasant Phase II expansion creating even more issues with speeding and possible accidents/injuries to pedestrians. Board is going to draft the letter and get with the neighborhood to sign a petition to send to the city to apply for the Traffic Calming Program.

IV. President's Report

- Address the community.

Meeting Minutes:

Read "What is a Civic League", at a halfway point, the V. President took over finished the reading, discussed the list of civic leagues in the City of Chesapeake and read a letter from the President to the community with all the issues that transpired on the community Facebook page. No questions from attendees. Abbey Fisher, Facebook Admin, spoke up regarding the page and behaviors on the page. Jim Hintz, spoke up asking why there is so much angst felt by the Board, and it was explained that a handful of neighbors are bullying online, attacking the Board members online, private messages on Facebook and personal texts. He loves the neighborhood and would like to offer any help needed.

V. Board Report

Treasurer:

- Financial report – all bills are paid to date.
- General fund (checking) \$2,271.05
 - Emergency fund (savings) \$295.13
- 2023 Membership - 33% participation 84 homes
2024 Membership - 3% participation 6 homes

Meeting Minutes:

Kelly Martinec passed out a copy of the checkbooks and breakdown of Fall Festival expenditures. Went over the budget explained costs. The question was asked why the membership amount increased and how much did it increase? Answer increased due to costs to of each item in the budget. (see budget attached). Doug Lowrey spoke up about the \$50.00 membership.

Committee Reports –

- a) Events and Hospitality Committee – Open
- b) Garden Committee – Pam Eaton:
 - i. Looking for new members
 - ii. Open to kids to volunteer for community service to help with weeding.
 - iii. Fall flowers installation.
- c) Social Media Committee Chair – Amiee Mulvihill

VI. Announcements – President

- **Elections:** Open for appointment by the President –
 - Positions open: 1st and 2nd Vice President and Treasurer
 - Per the Bylaws, to be considered for a position a resident must do the following:
 - Must be a dues paying resident of Tunbridge Station
 - Send an email to the Civic League Gmail expressing what position they would like to be considered for on the ballot.
 - Must have attended a minimum of one (1) membership meeting within the current calendar year prior to seeking office for that year.

Meeting Minutes:

No elections as no one applied for any positions. Jeff Eaton stepped down from the board. Kelly Martinec was voted in by attendees to stay in position.

- **Fall Festival/Chili Cook Off/Halloween Parade:** Recap

Meeting Minutes:

Kelly passed out the Fall Festival expenditures and shared how the success of the event.

- **Christmas Food Drive & Photos with Santa:** Scheduled for Saturday, November 16th, from 2-4pm. Amiee will update the website and FB with details.

Meeting Minutes:

Kelly acquired "Santa" for the event, Sarah Lindemeyer volunteered her photography services, photo backdrop, cookies, hot cocoa, kids to bring ornament for the front entrance Christmas tree, food donation collection for a local church food pantry, and decorating the front entrance for Christmas after the event.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:29pm – close of meeting motioned 1st Rob Mulvihill and 2nd Dottie Ellen.