

Pembroke Meadows Civic League

General Membership Meeting

May 19, 2022

Jackie Savage called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the last meeting, and it was seconded and approved. Someone asked where they could read the minutes and she said they were on the pembrokemeadows.org website.

Carol Moore gave the Treasurer's Report as of 5/4/2022. We have switched accounts to Bayport and the checking account is \$21,637.90, the savings is \$90,639.55 for a total of \$122,277.45. The cell tower brings in almost \$5,000 a month and during Covid we did not have activities. Also, the pool did not need startup money this year.

Mike Moore gave a building and grounds and median flagpole update. He said we are trying to get someone to fix the flagpole (we need someone with a bucket truck.) Jim Price thanked the Garden Club for keeping the median looking good.

Membership Update – As of May 1, we have 162 households. We now have multiple ways to sign up. You can fill it in online, or print the membership sheet and drop it off at a Board member's house, or mail it to the Post Office box.

Pool - The pool will open Saturday, May 28 and you can sign up at pembrokemeadowspool.org - It is all done online this year. A question was asked regarding the signing of consent regarding photographs with no option to decline on the pool application. Jackie Savage said she would reach out to the Pool Board for the answer.

Yard Sale Update – Yard sale will be held May 21. You can participate with or without being on the online map which will be updated. Twenty-six people have signed up this year.

Garden Club – Peggy Caverly announced that they were selling garden gloves to raise money for the Virginia Beach Bee City.

Guest Speaker Presentation – Jackie Savage introduced the guest speaker, Symsi Denson, Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Operations Coordinator, to speak with us about Virginia Beach's commitment to protect and preserve our native pollinators. In order for Virginia Beach to become a Bee City, strict criteria needed to be met and the City Council had to sign off on the resolution. Virginia Beach was all in and committed to planting native plants that didn't need insecticides. Then, Covid came along and the program was shut down. About a year ago, they started meeting about it again and City Council signed off and Virginia Beach will become a Bee City USA. Research was started in 1971 to protect pollinators when a scientist found a butterfly species becoming extinct. In 2012, Bee City was born. Asheville, N. C. was the first Bee City USA. The location does not have to be a city; it can be a campus, etc.

There is a Bee City Garden at Redwing Park. There are native plants there that attract pollinators. People can have a tour of the Redwing pollinator garden in the summer. A question was asked about whether the palm trees are still being planted at the oceanfront. Ms. Denson replied that there was a commitment in the budget to plant the palm trees as they are the only things that tall that can take the salt air on the Boardwalk at the Neptune 31st park. Another question was raised about mosquito control. Ms. Denson said they are very cautious of how they spray and that people who do not want to have the truck spray near their house can get a reflector for their mailbox. The speaker said you could go to the vbgov.com website and look for mosquito control to get information on where you can get the reflector. Another question was asked about wasps and Ms. Denson said you can call a beekeeper to remove them from your property. The Bee Keeper Association phone number is 757-641-5933.

Ms. Denson provided her contact information for anyone needing more information on finding native plants or having questions. She can be reached at sdenson@vbgov.com and she also handed out pamphlets with information on Bee City Virginia Beach.

Park Renovation Information – Jackie Savage thanked our speaker for her very informative presentation. She discussed that we are working on getting information from members to see who is interested in being on the Park Committee for a tot lot for younger kids. Those interested should email Cheryl Douglas at puzllr@aol.com or a Board member with “Park” in the subject. The City will work with us on installing and renovating. It will need to be put to a vote. It was explained that during Covid, a letter was sent to Civic Leagues to respond in ten days. We did not receive this in time and emails were going to the wrong place. Because of this, the City estimated the need from old information they had. They will not replace the equipment but will fit in and install a new one. The Civic League is looking at funding the replacement and is also working with the Virginia Beach Parks Foundation.

Updating Bylaws - Dave Frohwitter is putting a committee together – so far we have two volunteers.

National Night Out – This is on August 2 at the pool. Information will be in a July newsletter.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 pm. It was seconded, and all were in favor.