

**CAPE ST. CLAIRE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2014**

The January Annual Membership Meeting was convened on January 14, 2014 at 7:35 P.M. in the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse, President Dembowski called the meeting to order and thanked all for attending. He also mentioned that our guest will be Councilman Dick Ladd. He noted that it has been interesting, fun, and educational being President of the Board this past year and encouraged residents to run for the Board and get involved.

Secretary's Report / Approval of Minutes:

Mike Buchet moved that the minutes of the **October 22, 2013 Quarterly Membership Meeting** be approved. The motion was seconded by Barbara Breeden and it was approved by a majority.

Treasurer's Report / Approval of Profit & Loss (P&L) Statements:

Brad Knopf moved that the **August 31, 2013, September 30, 2013, and October 31, 2013 P&Ls** be approved. The motion was seconded by Barbara Breeden and it was approved by a majority.

GUEST SPEAKER:

President Dembowski introduced Councilman Dick Ladd.

Council Ladd started by mentioning changes that have taken place in 2013. The County has a new County Executive, a new police chief and fire chief, and new department heads. The "rain tax", budget, and employee health benefits have been dealt with. The County is no longer furloughing employees, has given small raises, and restored money to the rainy day fund it had been borrowed from. Overall, the County is in good financial shape.

Regarding police services, he said that construction of a new Eastern District headquarters near Earleigh Heights has begun, that the ride-along program is doing well, and that calls come in from every community with drug problems. The County now has a tactical drug squad to deal with them.

He said that HOAs are speaking up for their communities and urged residents with concerns to work through the CSCIA.

He said the "rain tax" will deal with waste water, stormwater runoff, and septic tanks, and that 70 million dollars are going to the area between the Severn and Magothy Rivers. He pointed out that no one is saying "don't deal with the problem", just "take the money from somebody else." It will take over 900 million dollars just to deal with the problem in Anne Arundel County. He said that stormwater catchment basins in the Cape will be taken care of.

He said that work on Cape St. Claire Road will begin in March or April. He will be talking with the Cape on February 10 with more details. County water will be coming to the shopping center, and cell towers at the fire station and at the high school are in the works. The hiker-biker trail is getting a lot of use and the plan is to take it from Green Holly to Bay Dale in 2106-2017, and eventually out to route 2. It will be more difficult to take the trail to Sandy Point because of restrictions and lack of state land.

He said that a large day care center, entering and exiting directly onto College Parkway, had been approved. The County will try and put a center turn lane up in the area to deal with the challenge of keeping traffic moving on College Parkway.

The County is also starting the design process on a new Arnold elementary school. The County libraries will be upgraded over the next 10-15 years.

The police department has been restructured, with the addition of a deputy chief and a chief of staff. Middle management has been thinned out. A new police cadet corps of 18-25 year olds is being started. The fire department is making similar changes and upgrading to deal with the fact that 85% of its calls are for EMS services.

In response to a call for questions, one resident suggested the term “rain tax” be changed to “pavement fee.” Another questioned County benefits and Councilman Ladd noted that, unlike in the past, pensions need to be fully funded.

He ended by noting that he will be running for re-election.

After a short break, the election results were announced.

The 2015 Budget passed. President Dembowski thanked the Budget Committee and Board members who participated in its creation, and the membership applauded them.

There were three open seats on the Board of Governors, and one open due to a December resignation. Thus, all four candidates were elected. Scott Dembowski and Josephine Gardner were re-elected and Jennifer Vaccaro and Susan Hazen were newly elected.

President Dembowski thanked Bruce Campbell and Kathleen Mooneyhan for their service on the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

A resident thanked the Board for trying to deal with removal of the PODS throughout the Cape.

Governor Breeden said there are pamphlets and information regarding the community watch program headed by Mike Robinson. There will be a meeting with the police department March and anyone with questions or information can pass them along to security@cscia.org.

Governor Gardner said that the final plans for Cape St. Claire Road are in the office for anyone to look at. There will be a presentation at the Clubhouse on February 19 or 20 with the County. Road work will start in March and last for 5 or 6 months.

Governor Biondi noted that the Board of Governors is 1/10 of 1% of the cape population and that it needs the community to be its eyes and ears, and it needs to hear from them to be effective.

There was a comment that replacement of trash cans off the road has improved since Councilman Ladd followed up with the County regarding the problem. It was pointed out that the county contractor is liable for any damages to cars from cans left in the roads.

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President Dembowski thanked all who have been involved in Cape activities and urged all to become involved with Goshen Farm, the Broadneck Council of Communities, Youth Sailing, and the like.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Committee chairman Mike Buchet said that work on the FY 2016 budget will start in February. Two members of the Board need to be assigned to the Budget Committee.

A resident thanked President Dembowski for his role as president over the past year.

ADJOURNMENT:

Governor Biondi moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by David Toy and was approved. The January 14, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Governors Biondi, Breeden, Dembowski, Gardner, Lamb, Myers, Newman, Norris, Snow, and Venno.

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