



The Community Advocate

Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations

P.O. Box 9252 Virginia Beach, VA 23450-9252

<http://vbcco.org>

January 2010 Volume 51 - Number 1

January's General Meeting Topic:

Strategic Planning and Induction of 2010 Board of Directors

January 13, 7pm to 8:30pm

Meyera Oberndorf Central Library
4100 Virginia Beach Blvd

Other Important Dates:

CCO's Board of Directors:

January 27, 7 pm to 9 pm

Meyera Oberndorf Central Library
4100 Virginia Beach Blvd

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming meetings:

Feb. 10

TFC Recycling Wants to hear from you!

If you would like your civic league to have a spokesperson from TFC to speak at your next civic meeting or to schedule a tour of the facilities, please contact Kathy Russell at 757-543-5766.

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the city's recycling efforts.

All VBCCO meetings will begin at 7pm at the Meyera Oberndorf Central Library

A Message from the President

You are invited to our 2nd annual Strategic Planning Meeting!

VBCCO is holding our 2nd annual Planning and Goal setting meeting. Last years event was very successful and with every ones help, set the plans for 2009 in motion. We are looking to get Direction and Input for important issues for our organization and how we will address these issues in the coming year.

Strategic planning is an important process for a successful organization. We, the VBCCO can plan out and reaffirm what we value and what we need to accomplish in the coming year. This PLAN gives direction to the Board of Directors on how to better serve the needs of you, our members. Once we set the plan, the next step will be to implement the plan. We will do this through our programs and events. One mission the VBCCO has always strived to accomplish is to truly represent the homeowners and Civic Leagues of our City. There are many opinions and points of view. So if there is an issue you would like to see us take on, come and let us know. The best way to be heard is to participate in the process.

Please join us at 7 p.m. on Wed., Jan. 13, 2010 at the Central Library for the swearing in of our 2010 Officers and Directors. We will be meeting in the two rooms across from the auditorium. Light refreshments will be offered starting at 6:30 p.m., so come early and meet your 2010 Officers and Directors.

Discussion will be held in a series of round tables on a variety of planning topics:

The best way to continue to improve, is to look at our work, evaluate it and see where we want to be this time next year. We can do this, with every ones help.

Sam Reid- President

VBCCO 2010 General Meetings



Mark Your Calendars
Now!

January 13

February 10

March 10

April 14

May 12

June 9

July 14

- *Annual Cook Out at
Mount Trashmore*

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

All Board of Directors Meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month. Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings start at 7 p.m. at the Meyera Orberndorf Central

Any CCO member-in-good-standing may reprint any article from the CCO newsletter or website provided that no changes are made to the article and that CCO is cited as the original source. Non-members may request permission to reprint CCO articles.

City Council Seeks Candidates to Fill At Large Seat

In accordance with City Charter Section 3.03 and as a result of the recent General Election causing a vacancy in one At Large seat, City Council encourages interested citizens, who are registered voters, to submit their "Statement of Qualifications" with an accompanying letter stating their desire to serve on the governing body of the largest city in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The City Council will appoint the selected citizen within sixty days [of January 1, 2010], to fill the unexpired term through December 31, 2010.

Councilman Ron Villanueva, having been certified as the City's newest Delegate-Elect to the Virginia General Assembly, has submitted his resignation to City Council, effective December 31, 2009.

Interested citizens are encouraged to provide a "Letter of Interest" along with a printed "Statement of Qualifications," a recent photo, and a completed "Candidate Questionnaire" on or before January 15, 2010, to:

Ruth Hodges Fraser, City Clerk
281 City Hall, Municipal Center, 2401 Courthouse Drive
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-9005
or via Fax: 757 385 5669
or via e mail: rhfraser@vbgov.com

Each Candidate must be a registered voter in the City of Virginia Beach. The vacancy is for one AT LARGE seat and is available to all qualified interested citizens.

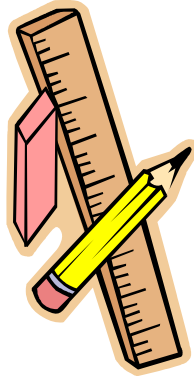
The City Council will be reviewing [Candidate Questionnaires](#) prior to making an appointment.

Contact Information:
Office of the City Clerk
City Hall
2401 Courthouse Dr., Suite 281
Municipal Center, Bldg. 1
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
Main: 757-385-4303



School Board Schedules Public Hearing on Proposed Changes to Division's Grading Scale

On Wednesday, January 6, a public hearing will be held to receive comments on the School Board's proposed changes to the division's grading scale. The hearing, which will be held at [Landstown High School](#), will begin at 6 p.m. School Board Vice Chair Rita Sweet Bellitto and Board Member Carolyn Weems will provide an overview of the proposal after which Board members will hear public comment. Those who wish to speak at the hearing will sign up on site. "We have designed and implemented an extensive public comment process on this issue. Parents and employees had the opportunity to participate in electronic surveys. We also received comment on our *On the Mark* blog posted on [vbschools.com](#) through December 15. In addition, individual School Board members have received many comments from constituents. The public hearing is another opportunity for citizens to weigh in on this important subject," said Bellitto. The School Board also will discuss the [proposal](#) at its January 5 meeting. The Board will consider all public comment and is expected to take action on the proposal at its January 19 meeting.



Say "Thanks" to the Volunteers of Your Community

VBCCO's 2010 Community Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, March 6. Each VBCCO member organization has the opportunity to recognize the volunteers who work so hard for your community. Each volunteer submitted will be recognized at the event and will receive a Certificate of Recognition, suitable for framing. In addition, one individual will be selected from the list of nominations to receive a citywide award. Plus, communities may be nominated for the Community of the Year award.

The Following Awards will be given:

Community Service Award and Outstanding Youth Award. Each person submitted by your organization will receive a certificate.

Citywide Volunteer of the Year Award and Citywide Youth Volunteer Award. Members may nominate an individual for each award. One recipient will be selected by the Awards Committee.

Community of the Year Award. Communities may submit themselves for consideration. One community will be selected by the Awards Committee.

Forms will be available online at [VBCCO.org/awards](#). Direct questions to AwardsCommittee@vbcco.org.

Community Calendar

City Council Meetings:

Tuesday, Jan 12 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan 26 6 p.m.
Council Chambers,
Building 1

January 6

School Board Public Hearing
Landstown High School
6 p.m.

January 13

General Membership Meeting
Strategic Plan for 2010
Meyera Oberndorf
Central Library
Small Conference room, 7 p.m.

January 15

Last Day to submit City Council Questionnaires for Consideration

January 18

Martin Luther King Day

January 21

Town Hall Budget Meeting w/ Bill DeSteph
Great Neck Rec Center
7 p.m.

Mark your calendars:

March 6

Annual Awards Banquet
Westin Town Center
Email Jay Kerr at jkerr@vbcco.org for more Information and discount tickets

Town Hall Budget Meeting

"Following four Public Meetings on the budget held by the City of Virginia Beach, many folks in the community shared with me that they felt they did not get to share their views and concerns with other residents who attended the meetings. In order to satisfy their requests, I have asked the City to host another meeting whereby the format will not be structured to limit interaction between Council Members and their constituents.

"I will be moderating this meeting and encourage you to attend so that attending Council Members can hear first-hand your concerns and suggestions as to how the City should approach our preparation of the 2010-11 budget cycle.

"The meeting will be held at the Great Neck Community Recreation Center, 2521 Shorehaven Drive, on Jan. 21, beginning at 7 p.m.

"All citizens who are concerned about the possibility of an increase in taxes and/or fees should attend. Please remember, "Silence is consent."

"If, for some reason, you are not able to attend this meeting and would like to have your comments as part of the meeting's records, you may e-mail me bdesteph@vbgov.com.

"For additional information, please contact At-Large City Councilman Bill DeSteph at (757) 339-6105."

Family Fun in Virginia Beach

Celebrate the arts with the whole family! Join the fun as the City of Virginia Beach Arts and Humanities Commission and the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts presents its annual Kids Arts Palooza on Saturday, Jan. 16, from noon to 5 p.m. at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in Virginia Beach. The Sandler Center is located in the Town Center of Virginia Beach, 201 Market St. All the fun is free and open to the public.

The **Virginia Stage Company** will take the Main Stage at 12:30 p.m. with their rendition of the classic fairytale, "**Hansel & Gretel's Grimm Tale.**" This show is suitable for children of all ages. **Symphonicity** will take the Main Stage at 3:15 p.m. with their popular Lollipop Concert, "**It's Raining Music,**" featuring music about weather with special guest, local WAVY News 10 meteorologist Don Slater! This performance is recommended for children in grades K-6. Sign language interpretation will be provided by Mindy Brown & Company for these performances.

No reservation or ticket is required and all performances are free and open to the public.

Other activities throughout the day will further entertain children as well as adults. Visitors will delight in **special performances by Krendl the Magician, hands-on children's art activities, strolling costumed characters, balloon sculptures, and much more!** Sample entertainment from local arts and humanities organizations as visitors learn more about all the cultural finds in Hampton Roads. Join us as the arts unite in a day filled with excitement, creativity, and lots of family fun!

The **Contemporary Art Center of Virginia** will entertain children of all ages with a puppet-making activity based on the characters of Maurice Sendak's best-selling book, "**Where the Wild Things Are.**" Be sure to attend this fun, creative activity!

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Attempted Spot Zoning in Bay Colony

You know, you never think this is going to happen to your neighborhood. The latest attempted SPOT ZONING was in Bay Colony. "BAY COLONY on HOLLY ROAD!!" This just proves it can happen anywhere. An application to change zoning from Residential to Office was started. The first step was to get past the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Board hearing.

Nancy Johnson, the Chairperson of the Stewardship Committee for the Bay Colony Civic League sounded the alarm and asked for help. She had already worked for months on preventing this re-zoning and protecting the endangered wetlands just off Holly road. Nancy called me and asked if the VBCCO could help in anyway. I met with her and we talked about the City's Comp. Plan, the Resort Area Plan, and the new Gateway (31 st) Plan. All of these draw the line at not encroaching into our neighborhoods. Nancy put together an extensive presentation to present at the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Board hearing. I drafted a letter for her presentation, stating the VBCCO's position on Spot Zoning and the City's position on environmental stewardship, stated in the Comp Plan. Nancy attended the hearing and presented Bay Colony's position. With the Body of Information Nancy put together, she had a positive impact on the Board. They voted to deny the application almost unanimously. This denial prevents the re-zoning application from going before the Planning Commission and the City Council. It's dead in the Wetlands, so to speak. Due to her personal efforts, Nancy, being aware of what was happening in and around her neighborhood paid off in protecting Bay Colony.

Our Neighborhoods need to be protected from commercial encroachment. Virginia Beach neighborhoods are as much a NATURAL RESOURCE as the beaches and the bay. They are a major reason our City is rated at the top, both in state and nationally.

We, the VBCCO were glad to be able to help Bay Colony maintain their neighborhoods beauty and stability. Thanks to Nancy Johnson's hard work and efforts Holly road will remain one of the most pleasing roads by which to enter one of Virginia Beach's most gracious Neighborhoods

The Question & Answer Box

This column has been created to address QUESTIONS our members may have. We all face the same issues within our leagues. This will be your opportunity to receive answers and suggestions from the VBCCO and other league leaders.

We received several questions regarding trash and recycling. This month's questions:

Q) Can we recycle yogurt containers?

A) No, you can only recycle plastic #1 & #2 (soda, water, and detergent bottles).

Q) Where can we "dump" household waste? What are the hours of operation?

A) The Landstown Transfer Station (468-3382) Monday—Friday (8—4:30) and Saturday (8—12)
The Landfill II (385-1980) Monday—Saturday (7—4:30)

Q) How do I request bulk item pick up? What will they pick up?

A) Access the city website vbgov.com and to the dropdown menu titled "city services". Select "pick up bulk items". This is a very simple process that gives you immediate response.

Holiday Garbage and Recycling Collection Schedules

Christmas and New Year Holidays:

If your normal waste and recycling collection day falls on *Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1*, your services will be provided instead on *Monday, December 28 and Monday, January 4*, respectively. Please place your containers adjacent to the street by 7 a.m. All other collection days will be serviced as usual.

Our office will be closed on December 24, 25, and January 1 in observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Residents are encouraged to place recyclable material, such as wrapping paper and cardboard, in their recycling container. Recyclable material may also be taken to any of the 5 public-use recycling drop-off locations listed on this web page.

From December 28 through January 8, extra trash in securely-tied plastic bags, not to exceed 25 pounds each, may be placed at the curb for collection along with the automated waste container on the normal waste collection day. Please ensure that bags of trash do not block access to waste and recycle containers.

Christmas trees will be collected on the normal waste collection day. No special call is necessary.

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Students from **Salem High School's Visual and Performing Arts Academy** will also join the celebration by demonstrating and presenting throughout the day. Students from the Academy's **Vox Harmonia**, **National Dance Honor Society** and the **Steel Drum Band** will be on hand for mini-performances and interaction.

Join us as the arts unite in a day filled with excitement, creativity, and lots of family fun! For more information, please contact the Sandler Center Box Office at (757) 385-ARTS (2787).

About The Virginia Beach Arts and Humanities Commission: Serving in an advisory capacity to Virginia Beach City Council, the Virginia Beach Arts and Humanities Commission encourages the development of programs in the arts and humanities within the City of Virginia Beach. The Commission strives to bring local and regional arts organizations in closer cooperation and to provide assistance and information.

About The Sander Center: The Sandler Center for the Performing Arts at Virginia Beach is a professional-quality facility that celebrates the arts and showcases the region's cultural resources. With a premiere location in the heart of Virginia Beach's Town Center, the state-of-the-art performance hall features nearly 1,300 seats, perfect sight lines, an outdoor performance plaza, and support spaces.

Free Parking

Winter's not so bad. The parking is free. From Nov. 1 to March 31, anyone visiting the Oceanfront can park for free at any municipal parking lot or meter. Regular parking rates apply to the municipal parking garages in the resort area.

Rac Report

NEW CHAIRMAN

Ken Taylor served as RAC Chairman 2007-09. The RAC Charter limits a Chairman to three consecutive one year terms.

The new Chairman in 2010 will be Preston Midgett, who has served as Chairman of the RAC's Transportation, Parking, and Pedestrian Committee (TPPC) the past few years. I've served on the TPPC under Preston and have found him approachable and open-minded.

DOMESITE

Michael Jenkins is assembling the financing and it is anticipated that the project will be ready to go to City Council later in 2010. The Dome site entertainment facility would come online in the Spring of 2012.

MY TENURE

I've served as CCO RAC representative since February, 2004 and 2010 will be my last year in that post. While I have missed a few committee meetings during that time, I have yet to miss a meeting of the full RAC. On a Commission plagued by attendance problems, I hope to complete my final term with that perfect attendance record in tact.

RAC is difficult and not what most residents west of Birdneck Road believe it to be. During this final year, I wish to share some insights into the Commission and how it works.

MEMBERSHIP FEE DUE

All Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations (VBCCO) member organizations are reminded that the 2010 membership fee is due in January 2010. Those member organizations not on the adjacent VBCCO MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING list will be declared in good standing upon receipt of payment of the 2010 membership fee. Those members already on the list will remain so until the end of the grace period, June 30, 2010.

To make payment of the 2010 membership fee, mail a check for \$25 payable to VBCCO to:

VBCCO Treasurer
P.O. Box 9252
Virginia Beach, VA 23450-9232

VBCCO Members In Good Standing

Aeries on the Bay•Alanton•Aragona Village
Avalon Hills•Avalon Terrace/Woods•Back Bay Pungo
Bay Breeze Villas •Bay Lake Pines•Baycliff•Bellamy
Plantation•Bellamy Woods•Bellwood Estate• Birchwood
Birdneck Lake•Blackwater •Brigadoon • Brighton on the Bay
Cambridge Courts•Cape Henry Shores• Cape Story By The Sea
Carolanne Farm• Cavalier Park/Bay Colony• Charlestowne Area
Chelsea• Green Hill Farms/Meadows •Chesapeake Beach
Chesapeake Colony•Croatan • Cypress Point•Glenwood
Great Neck Estates• Green Run•Homestead•Kempsville Greens
King's Grant•Lagomar•Lake Smith T-HP-GS
Lakeview Park•Lamplight Manor•Larkspur
Laurel Cove•Level Green•Linkhorn Cove•Linlier
Little Haven•Little Neck Cove•Lynnhaven Woods
Manchester Village• New Castle Princeton• North Alenton
North Virginia Beach•Ocean Park• Oceana Gardens
Park Place•Pembroke Manor•Princess Anne Crossing
Princess Anne Plaza•Ridglea•River Haven•Rudee Heights
Salem Woods•Southall Quarter•Thalia
Thoroughgood Colony•Three Oaks •Trantwood Lakes
The Villages•Wellington Woods
Wildwood Square•Witchduck•Woodstock



VBCCO MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
 4604 Williamsburg Court
 Virginia Beach, VA 23462-2241
 Return Service Requested
 For all except "Temporarily Away"

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 Samreid@vbcco.org
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- Dottie Hampton**
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