



## NGO Liaison Report

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Town Council Work Session

September 8, 2021

**Alliance of Colonial Beach Community Organizations:** The Alliance had a Zoom meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Participants shared information about their programs, discussed Earth Day 2022, the Rural Community Development Initiative, Ribbon Cutting and Launch Party for the Dodson project, and the Adopt-a-Park Initiative.

**Guadalupe Free Clinic continues to grow!** They have seen more patients from Jan-June 2021 than they did in all of 2020...and they never closed due to COVID. The Clinic will be providing booster vaccines at the Community Center **AS SOON AS APPROVED BY THE CDC**. Walk-in Clinics will be held Saturdays 9:30-12:00. No reservations are required; first come, first served. The first is expected to be held in October for folks who received their second shot in February (1<sup>st</sup> Responders, Town Employees, School Employees. Please watch the Town's Website and FB Page for details as plans are finalized.

### Colonial Beach Community Foundation

- **NN Beach Music Festival is this Sunday 9/12 on Town Hill.** All monies raised from the festival and from the Building Community raffle will be dedicated to the CBCF Beautification Fund with grant requests in the Fall.
- **Building Community Raffle Continues Win \$5,000 with a \$50 raffle ticket.** Maximum tickets to be sold is 350. All proceeds go to the CBCF Beautification Fund.
- **Brew to Beer on October 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by Colonial Beach Brewing. Proceeds from the event go to CBCF.**
- **Round Robin Karaoke Contest finals at the Community Center at 6 PM on October 16<sup>th</sup>. All money raised over the summer benefit the Community Center (sponsored by Hawthorn Mercantile).**
- **Plants Not Puddles:** American Water grant for helping residents manage their stormwater run-off. Educational Workshop was held on 8/14; Power Point Available on the Foundation's Website: [www.cbcommunityfoundation.org](http://www.cbcommunityfoundation.org). **Plant Drive, with the support of Ingleside Nursery is the month of September (must order by the 30<sup>th</sup>), with plant pick-up 10/23 at the Community Center.** Order forms on the Foundation's Web Page.
- Initial planning has started for a Stratford Hall/CBCF Chocolate/Wine Collaboration for February 2022.
- **The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Newcomers Meet and Greet continue with event at Raven's Point on 9/16**
- Working towards establishing funds for community emergencies.

**James Monroe Birthplace:** The James Monroe Birthplace wrapped up the season on Aug 29 with a staff appreciation picnic and party. Youth Attendants made presentations and special guest Sara Cox, president of the Virginia Children of the American Revolution, announced her fund-raising project to sell virtual bricks, with proceeds benefitting the James Monroe Foundation. Over the 12-week season, the Birthplace saw almost a thousand visitors. Guests came from 17 different states and 5 foreign countries including Ireland, Mexico, France, the Dominican Republic, and Brazil. The

Monroe Foundation will hold a **Grand Opening Celebration of the completed memorial house, replicating the home in which Monroe was born, on October 2. The public is invited. Further announcements will be made as the date draws closer.**

**Colonial Beach Chamber of Commerce:** Water Fest was a great event with family activities both Saturday and Sunday. Vendors had a very successful weekend. Arts and Crafts was a huge success with over 40 vendors lining the boardwalk and having above average sales. However, the event was diminished Saturday night when 5 of the vendors tents were broken into and products were stolen. The CB Police were here early Sunday morning taking reports from the affected vendors. The Chamber plans on following up with the police to see how the investigation is going and keeping our vendors informed.

- **The Chamber was asked by the Town Manager to oversee the Town sponsored fireworks.** This was accomplished by Chambers involvement from the initial setup to the timing and production of the displays. The fireworks have received rave reviews.
- **Bike Fest (October 7-10) is rolling along with all applications and permits in the works. Posters and cards are here and being distributed and official shirts expected this week. The Bike Fest Committee will be needing volunteers for all aspects of this event.**
- The Economic Development Committee is working with Town Officials and DCB to partner with Dr. John J. Accordini, PhD, FAICP, Professor of Urban & Regional Studies and Planning at Virginia Commonwealth University on Market Analysis project in Colonial Beach. Students from his graduate class will be visiting Colonial Beach multiple times over the next 2 months to conduct interviews of citizens, visitors, town officials and business owners to determine and report out on the economic opportunities for Colonial Beach based on their research and modeling.
- Mike Fitzpatrick attended a Virginia Economic Development Association workshop focused on understanding and meeting the growing power infrastructure needs of our region as pertaining to development. A report is available upon request.

#### **Downtown Colonial Beach**

- Initiated and are collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce on working with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) out of Fredericksburg on addressing the specific needs of Main Street retail businesses and retail. Our involvement with them kicks off with an introductory meeting at the Riverboat on September 8 and one-on-one consultations with local businesses.
- On the tree planting on Colonial Avenue and the riverfront, we are trying to find a third bid per town procurement requirements, then will be moving on to recruiting volunteers to help with planting.
- Retail Recruitment brochure is being sent to the Mayor, Town Manager, and VA Main Street for a final check before sending out for printing. The streetscape portion, which is one separate page, will be printed a little later after the retail recruitment brochure is at the printers. We are looking for help on retail targets from the SBDC and the VA Commonwealth University Market Analysis.
- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Va Main Street training will occur on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Brewery Annex on Washington Ave.**