

**Corolla Civic Association Minutes**  
**February 22, 2018**  
**Corolla Library**

President Barbara Marzetti called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Board members Gary McGee, Bill Collins and Gerri Adams were also present. A total of 34 members were in attendance, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A moment of silence was observed in honor of the victims of the Parkland, FL, school shooting. The presence of Commissioner Mike Hall and Register of Deeds Denise Hall was noted and they were welcomed to join the meeting.

Approval of Minutes. A motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018 Members' meeting was deferred until the next Members' Meeting, which is scheduled for March 22.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report. Gary McGee reported that CCA's current bank balance is \$5,917.

New Business:

CCA Request for County Documents. Barb reported that CCA has hired Parker Poe, a Raleigh law firm, to examine matters pertaining to the Occupancy Tax (OT). She said that the firm filed with the County on January 29 a formal request for records relevant to OT, and requested a response by February 28. She said we hope that the County will provide the requested information. The request excluded information that is already on the County website, and merely requested the County to confirm the accuracy of that information. We are seeking an independent opinion as to whether the County has been compliant with the OT statute. We have been concerned that the minutes of the Tourism Development Authority (which consists of all the Commissioners and which formally considers OT funding of projects) are silent as to whether there was any consideration of the effects that an OT-funded project would have on attracting tourists. We have told the County that we are looking for more transparency going forward on OT projects.

Offshore Drilling. Barb noted that CCA has sent a letter to Federal environmental authorities in which we objected to offshore drilling off the North Carolina Coast.

Beach Parking Passes. Barb reported that a proposed County ordinance that would require certain individuals to obtain passes to drive on the North Beaches was tabled by the Board of Commissioners at its last meeting, due to the fact that one Commissioner (Mike Hall) had dissented from a vote on the issue. She said that several changes are being considered. The ordinance will apply only to *parking* and not simply to driving on the beach. Daily, weekly and seasonal passes would be sold. Corolla property owners would be exempt from any fees, but would have to obtain the passes. Barb asked Commissioner Hall if he wanted to comment, and he did. He said that the purpose of the regulation was for the safety of people walking on the beach, and that the delay in adoption was due to some confusion about the proposal, and the concern that many renters who have already signed up for the Summer were not notified of these new requirements.

Upcoming Elections. Barb noted that the primary elections for State and Federal offices are scheduled for May. She said that Bobby Hanig, the Chairman of the County's BOC, has filed to run for the NC

House, and will run against the incumbent, Beverley Boswell. In local elections, several individuals have filed for the at-large Commissioner's seat, and one candidate has filed for Ms. Gilbert's seat. Mike Beickert has filed for Sheriff, as Sheriff Johnson is retiring. Bob Steinberg, the incumbent Senator, is running, and will be opposed by Clark Twiddy. CCA will hold a candidates' forum this Fall, and is considering one for this Spring.

Our speakers for the Meeting were Barbara and Ed Cornet, who discussed a draft of a 10-Year Proposed OT Budget that CCA is working on. This draft Budget proposal would recommend to the BOC expenditures of OT proceeds that the CCA community believes would be fully compliant with the law and are designed to have a maximum positive impact on the increase of tourism revenues for the County. This draft is being circulated to CCA members for their input. The proposal would ultimately be submitted for the County's consideration, and possibly for their discussion with CCA representatives, prior to the adoption of the County's budget for FY 2019, which begins on July 1.

Ed emphasized several highlights of the draft Budget proposal, including:

- \$3 million annual expenditures to fund a reserve for beach nourishment
- improving profitability of Heritage Park, whose revenues have declined since it was acquired by the County

Barb noted that one objective is that the 2019 Budget include funds for completion of the Corolla Pathway.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Collins, Secretary