



St. Clement Shores News

First Quarter 2022 Winter Edition
stclementshores.org

Community News

We Need You! As we enter the new year, new challenges, new changes, and new hope for the future, we plea for your involvement. Which is why we want to take a minute to involve you in the events and challenges that we face.

For the past 20 years, we have seen erosion at the beach property. This includes the seawall, the pier, and the field at the beach. As a community, we have been battling the County to take responsibility for the main runoff drainpipe that travels under the field and out to the water. After numerous phone calls, investigations, and letters, we have received great support from Commissioner Mike Hewitt and the County has finally assumed responsibility for their pipe. With this agreement, we will need to vote at the spring meeting to allow the County to obtain an easement for the pipe so that going forward, the integrity of the pipe will not be the responsibility of the Shores. Once this agreement is signed and in place, we can move forward with much needed repairs to the property.

This brings us to the next biggest concern for the Shores. The seawall is no longer able to hold back erosion to the land. We need to have it repaired as soon as possible. With every flood tide, tropical storm, and acts of mother nature, we are seeing more damage. This is why the field is constantly muddy and we struggle to get a foundation of grass to take hold. We have bids to install a vinyl seawall, or rip rap, and are waiting on estimates for concrete. All of the estimates to date literally deplete the balance in the community account. In addition to the seawall, we would like to install a walkway from the gate to the pier to allow our disabled residents to be able to enjoy the amenities we have to offer. We have tried to pursue a grant; however, that is not feasible.

This is where we need help. We are asking for fundraising ideas. With membership down to 49%, we are struggling to provide the current services with your dues (mosquito spraying, electricity at the pavilion, port-o-potty at the beach, trash service at the beach, etc.) If you have any experience with fundraising or know of someone who could help us, please let us know. We need to take action as soon as possible.

As we struggle to raise money for these repairs, we are still moving forward with low cost/no cost improvements.

A no dumping sign was purchased and installed at the beach property. We have been having issues with items being discarded illegally, which then causes an expense to the community to have them removed. We are hopeful that with the new sign and security cameras in place, that this will no longer be a problem. (Thank you to Michael Dean and John Smith for taking care of this.)

The installation of four bricks for the memorial garden were installed. This is a fundraiser for the community and Michael Dean volunteered to installed the bricks this past fall.

LSR has started the process of surveying the boat ramp at St. Mary's Avenue. This needed to be done to clarify the property boundary.

We are working with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office to change the speed limit on Lady Baltimore to be consistent at 25 MPH. (It is currently 30 MPH at the beginning of the road which adversely affects The Woods community.) We want all of our residents to feel safe traveling on our streets.

We are considering the purchase of a handicapped accessible port-o-potty at the beach instead of renting one. (We currently rent one from March through November.) We understand this could be a big cost saver. Thank you to Roy Morris for looking into this and we will keep you updated with our progress.

We are working with the County and the Sheriff's office to clear the end of Archer Street so that travel can resume for those who like to walk or ride their bikes through the path to the park.

We have reached out to the County to discuss the problem of standing water in the ditch lines throughout the community. They are aware and are in the process of addressing the same issues in Golden Beach and our neighborhood is next on the list. However, we have been advised this is years out and not a quick fix.

Fall/Winter Activities

Halloween Bash: Unfortunately, with the unforeseen flooding that occurred Halloween weekend, we had to cancel the event. The field at the beach was almost completely under water. We hope to hold the event in 2022.

On the Schedule

No events are scheduled for January or February 2022.

Our next community meeting is March 6 at 9:00 am at the pavilion at the beach. PLEASE join us!

We will send out an email blast and update the Facebook Event page when events come up. Keep checking our message board and our Facebook event page.

2021/2022 Officers and Board of Directors

President:	Laura Morgan	301-475-5972
VP:	Jessica Varesko-Dean	240-577-5476
Treasurer:	Laurine Toone	240-372-7070
Secretary:	Debbie Smith	301-643-7785

At-Large: Courtney Lowe, Michael Dean, John Morgan

Maintenance: James Morgan, Michael Dean, John Smith, Jim Beavan

Fundraising: Laura Morgan

Events: Jessica Varesko-Dean, Courtney Lowe, Debbie Smith

Membership: Laurine Toone

Newsletter: Debbie Smith

The elections were held on October 17, 2021, at the main beach during our annual general meeting. We were truly hoping to have a bigger turnout at the meeting to involve more residents in the decision making. As you can see, we are holding duplicate positions in order to meet the needs of the community. **Please consider volunteering your time.** We meet one hour, once a month, at the beach – we don't hold meetings in January or February. If you can't make it to a meeting, but are willing to get involved, we are happy to make accommodations. We need your help!

For Your Information

- Mosquito spraying will begin in May or June.
- **Remember when walking your pets to use a leash and please clean-up after your pets!**
- Metcom continues replacement of the existing water lines from the 1950's. John Myles has been working with

MetCom and Commissioner Mike Hewitt to ensure the project is on track. Work has started back up and we are hopeful the project, with the roads getting paved, will be completed in the next 18 months.

- New telephone poles have been installed in the neighborhood and SMECO will replace or repair streetlights that are buzzing or not working properly. Please call the Leonardtown office at 301-475-5631 and give them the location of the streetlight
- **Please reach out to us and sign up to receive your newsletters electronically.** This helps so much with the cost of mailing St.Clements.BoardofDirectors@gmail.com.

Fundraisers ... Please support the shores

Brick Fundraiser is still available. If you are interested in purchasing a brick for our garden of remembrance, you can find the brick form on our website at:

<http://stclementshores.org>

T-Shirts! If anyone is interested in purchasing a shirt, the cost is \$25. We have men's size large to XX large and women's medium to XX large. This is a great way to support the community! Please call or text Debbie at 301-643-7785.



Comments Corner

The Association would like to express a warm welcome to our new residents of the shores: Kyran Gibson, Vicki Lynn Fuqua, Christian Winkle & Adrianna Parillo, and Mary Gatty