



Wards Corner Civic League

Crossroads

Serving: Academy Terrace, Colony Point, Hariton Gardens, Merridale, Pinehurst, Restmere, Rose Gardens, Sussex of Norfolk, Virginia Gardens, Wards Corner and Wexford Terrace

September 2016

Web site www.wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS CENTER

Speakers

Department of Emergency Response and Preparedness

CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) invited

Community Resource Officer William Old

Monday

**September 19, 2016
6:45 – 8:30 PM**

Presidents Message

By Jim English ajim.english@gmail.com

Dear Neighbors,

Welcome back to the last half of this civic league year. The summer of 2016 is now almost in the history books as it has once again sped by very rapidly. I hope your summer was enjoyable and relaxing. Mine sure was and I actually was able to spend a lot of time at my summer home in Maine. Let's hope we don't have any more hurricanes or other significant weather events this season. I hope you are now ready to begin the fall activities. With fall fast approaching, school is in session and the Wards Corner Civic League will begin holding its regular meetings again, starting with our meeting at 645PM on September 19th to be held at the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center. This newsletter reflects some of the issues and concerns that we have been involved in and working on.

Congratulations are in order for our own Martin Thomas Jr. on his election victory to Ward 1 of City Council. Thank you for all who came out and supported Martin in this election. As far as I know this is the first time that anyone from our civic league has been elected to City Council. This makes the victory even sweeter. Our precinct had the largest turnout in this election and the most votes for Martin of the 5 precincts. Way to go folks. Martin has been with our civic league for 10 years and has been a vice president for 9 of those years. He has been an invaluable asset to our civic league. Martin has decided to step down as vice president so that he can focus his time full time on the needs of Ward 1. We understand that and respect his decision although he will be missed in that role. Martin has indicated he will visit us regularly and help us whenever the need arises.

To Martin, we sincerely thank you for all of your support and work for our civic league these past years. You have been and will continue to be a very important part of our community and we look forward to working with you in the future.

The bylaws allow the President with approval of the Board to appoint another VP. However since we will be having an election in December we are going to wait until then to fill that position when we elect other officers at that time. A slate of candidates will be presented at the December meeting by the Nominating Committee to be considered for election. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at that time.

We will have informative speakers on timely city topics for you to hear. Therefore, I want to welcome you back to another year of good productive civic league meetings. If you regularly attend our meetings, please bring a neighbor. If you have never been to a meeting or you are new to the area, please join us. A strong active civic league like ours gives us good and continued political clout, which we have built with our council representatives to this area. The Wards Corner Civic League is recognized as one of the strongest civic leagues in Norfolk.

We have a great fall program lined up and we hope to see you at the meetings.

Please enjoy this newsletter. Please join your civic league. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you on the 19th of September at 645PM at the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center.

Sincerely, Jim

NEWS AND NOTES

CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder about joining the Civic League. Our annual dues are \$5.00/person or \$10.00/household. Regardless of whether or not you join the CL, you are able to attend our meetings and receive our newsletter. But, your dues help support our activities (such as our summer picnic) and printing our newsletter. When people join organizations and provide financial support for them, they have pride and ownership in the work that the organization does. With many members, we have a strong voice in our city, and can effect change positively in our community.

Please consider supporting your Civic League.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERERS

We need 2 people who are willing to deliver our newsletter on a monthly basis for ten months. The routes consist of approximately 20-30 papers, in a 3-4 block area. It takes about an hour, and is great exercise! Please contact Sue Classick if you are willing to help. (489-2315)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	252-207-4361
Police Red Sector	664-6914
Code Enforcement	664-6532
Environmental Health	683-2712
Sewer Backup	823-1000
Waste Management (Call here for large pickups)	441-5813
Norfolk Cares Call Center (Don't know what office to call on the problem?)	664-6510
Police Emergency	911

WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim English	423-7154
1st VP/ Membership		
2nd VP/Newslet- ter distribution	Sue Classick	489-2315
Secretary	Joan Griffey	440-9508
Treasurer	Ray Duron	423-4337
Newsletter Editor	Barbara Ross	739-3600
Member-at-large	Scott Guirlinger	489-3938

Web Master – Martin Thomas, Jr. (618-6468)

Newsletter Editor –Barbara Ross

Bookworms@WHRO.net

Wards Corner Civic League Minutes

June 20, 2016

WCCL met in Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center at 6:45PM. President Jim English welcomed guests and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance: 23.

Jim announced that a special election would be held on Tuesday, August 23 for our area's representation on Council. The only candidate on the ballot is Martin Thomas, Jr (our WCCL VP). A write in candidate has recently emerged. A letter from our Board and others was sent to the Council asking not to wait until November general elections because WC needs representation now as Council has their annual retreat in September. We have a newly elected Mayor and Superward official. We need to be at that table. A letter of support was drafted and sent to all CL paid members.

Our invited speaker is Norfolk SPCA ED Rob Blizard, who writes a column most weeks in The Compass. Founded in 1892, now a non-profit, it celebrates its 125th anniversary at the Botanical Gardens on Friday. Rob spoke of the value this animal shelter, a no kill facility, has for our pets, strays, and citizens. His goal is to increase friends' participation, volunteers and to renovate the present building. There are 5 veterinarians (DVM), a dental clinic, available walk in vaccines, TNR cats program and fostering. NSPCA depends on donations.

Due to miscommunication, we missed our Community Police Officer Report and another invited guest from PrimePlus.

Old Business: A copy of the revised bylaws was circulated and a motion was made and seconded to approve these. Discussion ensued: every adult paid member of a household has one vote; add newsletter and member-at-large positions to the Board; omit committee listing because there are none; Nominating committee appointed in November, elected in December and sworn in in January. The Newsletter has to be self-sustaining (from ads). Member Socco Pearson has been active in obtaining more businesses to advertise. He asks that ad rates be increased to \$15/month else an increase in member dues will be needed to pay for printing. He will send the change to the Board. Voting in favor to adopt the new ByLaws, ayes were unanimous. These will be posted on our web.

Ongoing problems with the Arbor Point apartments on Grantham, Timothy and Restmere (shutters, high grass and shrubs, unkempt appearances), will be addressed for us with Nusbaum rental agents by Martin Thomas Jr.

The meeting adjourned for the summer at 810PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Joan S. Griffey, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			\$2,083.10
+ funds received	\$325.00		
- funds disbursed		\$332.12	
Ending Balance			\$2,185.98

WARDS CORNER 10K RUN

The inaugural Wards Corner 10K run will be held on **Saturday, October 8, 2016, beginning at 8 AM**. The map shows the route of the race, which begins at the Church of the Ascension on Newport Avenue. The streets along the race route will be blocked for several hours.

For more information, check out the website at wardscorner10k.mettleevents.com. There is also information about Virginia Supportive Housing, the charity the race is sponsoring, as well as sponsorship information, the race course and after party. Virginia Supportive Housing's mission is to end homelessness by providing permanent housing and supportive services. Founded in 1988, VSH was the first non-profit organization in Virginia to develop and provide permanent supportive housing for homeless single adults. Since then, VSH continues its tradition of Making Homelessness History.

The website is always being updated as things change. The Greater Wards Corner Area Business Association will be meeting on Tuesday, September 20 at 8:30 AM in the Marine room upstairs at Farm Fresh, 230 East Little Creek Road. Everyone is invited to attend. The race will be discussed. You can still register to run.

You might also enjoy standing on your porch or sidewalk to cheer the runners on!



TREE TRIMMING

Are you one of the lucky homeowners that has a crepe myrtle tree in front of your home between the sidewalk and street? Although the trees are considered city property, the "suckers" or branches that grow from the base of the trees can be trimmed by homeowners when needed. This improves the overall appearance of the trees, and your property.

Get your clippers out and start trimming!