



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

January 2022

www.wardscorner.com

Upcoming Events

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Monday, January 24th @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88253848710?pwd=N05sU1BrekhoRVo3OGIzQ0ZJUINtQT09>

Meeting ID: 882 5384 8710

Passcode: 676033

Featured Speaker:

Stephen Kirkland – Executive Director, Nauticus

Adopt-A-Spot Cleanup

Our first Quarter cleanup will be announced soon! Our spot is the grounds of the Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center.

Upcoming Events

President's Message

Happy New Year! Is it just me or does 2022 feel like it's starting off similar to 2021 with a general theme like "new year, same problems"? It seems like we can't quite shake this pandemic. Here's hoping that it happens sooner rather than later.

As most of you are hopefully aware, we have been keeping a close eye on the progress, or lack thereof, on the design for a new or renovated Fitness & Wellness Center. City Council allocated \$4M in the current fiscal year budget (July 2021 - June 2022) to complete this design. Myself, other board members, and several citizens have been harping on the Parks & Recreation department director for a plan since early August with no meaningful results thus far. The beginning of this year marked the halfway point of the fiscal year with painfully little progress and we are growing increasingly frustrated by the delays in getting the public input process started, which we were told last fall would have commenced by now.

But have no fear; we remain steadfast in our determination to see this design completed this fiscal year. I am continuing to press the director for updates and am enlisting the help of our City Council

and surrounding neighborhoods as needed. Here is a quick summary of the latest update I was provided earlier this week:

1. **Survey:** The city's Public Works department has hired a contractor to shepherd the community engagement process. Letters should go out to the public and key stakeholders within the next two weeks informing all of us of a community survey that will be available over a two week period shortly thereafter.
2. **Meetings:** All data from the surveys will be correlated, processed, prepared, and placed in a format that can be shared with the community in three virtual meetings hosted by city staff. These meetings will be recorded and include time for questions and answers.
3. **Design:** Based on the community meeting input and data received, a conceptual design of a facility will be created.

I am told that we will have a clear sense of timeline and dates by our February meeting. Rest assured we will be persistent in reminding city staff of that

promise made to us. And naturally, our civic league board will be sure to share the survey link and meeting dates across all of our channels once that information is made available to us.

(I did share with the director that we have some recent experience with surveys for citizen input with the Granby Street bike lanes project. That survey had a relatively high response rate but was also criticized by some residents as biased and not allowing them to properly voice their concerns. Based on that experience, I recommended to him that this survey under current development be presented to a diverse group of residents ahead of its release to the public to proactively gather feedback on how it can be made as inclusive as possible.)

January for our civic league also means board elections. Please be sure to join our meeting this month where we will vote on a full slate of officers, some returning and some new candidates, since our terms as board members expire each year. If you are interested in serving on our board in 2022 and have not already let us know, please do so ahead of the meeting so that we can plan accordingly.

I would like to thank our current newsletter editor, Kellie Dickerson, for serving on the civic league board in 2022. Her efforts to prepare a readable and informative newsletter each month are very much appreciated by myself and by others.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns and can't find what you need on the city website or through the official channels, please reach out to myself or the other board members. Hope to see you all online and out around the neighborhood very soon!

Scott Guirlinger

Membership Meeting Minutes

There was no meeting held in December, be sure to join us January 24th for our next meeting via Zoom!

Board Elections

Our annual civic league board elections will be held at our membership meeting on January 24th. All officers serve one-year terms, and therefore all positions will be voted on. If you have any interest in doing a little more with your civic league in the new year, please reach out to president Scott Guirlinger (scott.guirlinger@gmail.com or 757-489-3938) or any other board member for more information. The commitment is relatively minimal, and we'd love for you to join us!

Helpful Tips to Prevent Frozen Pipes

The winter season and its freezing temperatures have arrived. Here are some tips to keep your pipes and home safe from the cold.

- Drain and disconnect all outdoor hoses.
- Let water drip from faucets during frigid temperatures to prevent pipes from freezing.
- Insulate pipes in unheated areas, such as garages, attics and crawl spaces.
- Install heat tape or heat cable on exposed water pipes or pipes located in areas where the temperature may fall below freezing.
- Seal off vents, doors, windows and cracks.

Holiday Lights Contest!

There were so many great displays this holiday season, that our judges had a hard time picking our winners, but alas we're proud to announce the 2021 Holiday Lights Contest results!

Best Traditional – 531 W. Little Creek Rd.

Most Whimsical – 517 Maycox Avenue

Best-in-Show – 533 Meads Road

Congratulations to our winners and a big thanks to everyone who decorated making our neighborhood a festive place to enjoy the season!

Treasurer's Report

	ACCOUNT		
	CHECKS	CASH	PAYPAL
Beginning balance	\$1,324.01	\$70.00	\$1,179.72
Funds received	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Funds deposited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.32
Funds dispersed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending balance	\$1,324.01	\$70.00	\$1,198.04
Total balance	\$2,592.05		

Civic League Board of Directors
 Contact Information

www.wardscorner.com/board-of-directors
Important Numbers

Police Non-Emergency	757-823-4433
Community Resource Officer	757-651-4577
Police Red Sector	757-823-4450
Norfolk Cares Call Center Call for: Sewer Backup, Code Enforcement, Waste Management, Animal Control – everything else!	757-664-6510
Police Emergency	911



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Expect delays in Street Sweeping
(Through late Jan./early Feb.)

NORFOLK

We are experiencing a critical shortage of vehicle parts and staff, along with a large volume of leaves.



January 29th, 2022
at Lafayette Park, Shelter 2

300+ fruit and nut trees, shrubs, and vines to be adopted out at no cost. One per household while supplies last.

10 AM to 1 PM
*weather permitting

Tree adoptions are available to Norfolk residents only.

[Learn More | www.norfolk.gov/knb](http://www.norfolk.gov/knb)

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