

# 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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After several years of waiting and anticipation, the redesign process for the Fitness & Wellness Center is finally underway. This is the first important step in the longer process of constructing a revitalized and/or replacement facility.

The city has hosted an initial public workshop and now a public survey is available. I encourage all of you to please take this survey and to actively share it with all of your neighbors as well. My personal goal for this facility is for it to be the most inclusive facility in the city, hopefully, the region, and offer a diverse set of amenities and services that meet the diverse needs of Norfolk residents. That diverse and inclusive output requires diverse and inclusive input, meaning we need as many residents as possible to respond to this survey. Only then can we truly say that we have heard the needs of city residents and have created a plan that best meets those needs. (See later in this newsletter for the survey information.)

It is worth reiterating where we are at in this redesign process, which is at the beginning. Regardless of what you might hear from neighbors or city staff, no design decisions have been made yet and no budget limitations exist yet. This initial public input period and survey start from a blank slate on what the current NFWC property can be transformed into for the future.

## Important Dates:

MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
FEBRUARY 28, 2022  
6:30PM ON ZOOM  
[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

ADOPT-A-SPOT  
MARCH 12, 2022  
[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## JOIN THE CIVIC LEAGUE!

[NOT SURE WHAT WE ARE OR WHAT WE DO? SEE OUR MEMBERSHIP PAGE TO FIND OUT.](#)

DUES ARE \$10 PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR.  
PAY ONLINE NOW THROUGH PAYPAL



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT...

As we work patiently through the design process, I would like for everyone to consider the power of the "And". Too often we hear someone express their desire as "I want this, therefore you cannot have that." I would encourage everyone to instead try to look for ways that "I can have this AND you can have that." Diverse needs require diverse solutions; let's try to avoid imposing any limitations on ourselves that may not truly exist.

Full disclosure: I work in the (software) design field. Through my work, I have found it's always helpful to collectively keep an open mind at this early stage. Arthur C. Clarke famously quipped that "the limits of the possible can only be defined by going beyond them into the impossible." If we entertain all ideas, even the impossible ones, we won't limit ourselves in what is actually possible.

A redesigned center, once built, has the ability to bring some very positive energy to our neighborhood and to the Wards Corner area in general. Let's grasp the importance of this opportunity and seize this moment to make a lasting impact on ourselves and our neighbors, present and future.

*Scott Guirlinger*

**February Meeting- 2/28 6:30pm**

**Featured Speaker:  
Sonal Rastogi, Director of Libraries for  
Norfolk Public Libraries**

**[Click here to join the Zoom Meeting](#)**

### 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-  
EVERYTHING ELSE!**  
**757-664-6510**

**POLICE EMERGENCY**  
**911**

## WARDS CORNER 1984



## Enhanced Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Community Survey- Make your voice heard!

 [Take the Survey](#)

Originally constructed in 1969, the existing Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center building was purchased by the City of Norfolk in 2004. The building has served the community well, but in recent years the building has exceeded its useful lifespan.

In April of 2020, the pool was closed due to structural concerns related to the dome that spans and covers the pool. Based on the safety concerns and the results of additional studies conducted on other portions of the building, the time has come to replace this aged facility with a modern building and reconsidered amenities.

The purpose of this survey is to solicit public input for planning desires and priorities for an enhanced fitness, wellness, and library facility on the existing Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center site. The results of the survey will be compiled to create a list of priorities for consideration in the new facility.

[Take the survey here.](#)





# WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE ADOPT-A-SPOT



## PLEASE JOIN US

### Q1 2022 CLEAN UP

Volunteers needed to help clean up litter from around the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center grounds. Tools and supplies will be provided but it will be helpful to wear waterproof boots. Please join us to help preserve our natural habitats.

The Wards Corner Civic League Adopt-A-Spot location is the field and surrounding grounds at the Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center bordering North Shore Ave to the north, and Newport Ave to the west. This piece of real estate is the largest green space we share as residents within the boundaries of our civic league region. We feel a responsibility to keep these grounds litter-free.

We meet four times a year and collect litter that has collected inside the field and along the sidewalk and roadways that border it. We will make announcements prior to our gathering. Gloves and trash bags are provided, so please show up and help out.

## CLEAN UP DATE

SATURDAY  
MARCH 12TH  
9:00AM

Gloves and trash bags are provided, so please show up and help out.



# WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

## VIRTUAL MEETING RECORDING ON WEBSITE



The meeting was opened by President Scott Guirlinger. Office Toth provided an update on criminal activity in the Wards Corner area. Stephen Kirkland, Executive Director, Nauticus provided information and answered questions.

- Biggest Winter Fest season on record. 65,000 people attended.
- Upcoming cruise season to be the busiest ever.
- New 5-year contract with Carnival.
- Norwegian Cruise Line to bring 25 port calls to Norfolk with 4000 passengers each.
- Regional financial impact.
- Port of call passengers to exceed boarding passengers.
- New gangway and boarding bridge allows Norfolk to host larger ships.
- Coordinating with local businesses to accommodate passengers.

Vice-Mayor Martin Thomas added city updates and answered questions.

- Attended Vegas Retail Conference with Economic Development.
- Vacant Farm Fresh owned by Slate Asset Group, Canada, is not interested in leasing property due to the current 2-year leasing contract with Kroger being paid.
- Vacant Kroger Shopping Center, potential retailer.
- De Paul property on hospital side to be put on the market.
- The water leak on Little Creek causing flooding on Newport Avenue has been corrected.
- Granby Street Bike Lane Project vote tomorrow night. Internally changed from Bike Lane Project to Safety Project.
- Wexford Terrace sign vandalized and repaired by Martin and his son.
- Patriotic Festival to be very successful.

MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED NEXT...

# WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED...

## VIRTUAL MEETING RECORDING ON WEBSITE

School Board Representative Adale Martin (Ward 1) added school updates and answered questions.

- Dr. Leon Rousan sworn in as replacement for Christine Smith for School Board Ward 4.
- Norfolk to continue with mask mandate.
- Waiting on a number of bills to be passed by the General Assembly.

Ted Drake provided an update on Redistricting.

- Redistricting Committee could not get the task completed, so the Supreme Court completed the redistricting maps.
- Plug in your address @ VPAP.org to find your new district.
- Waiting to see if vote is 11.2022 or 11.2023.

Holiday Lights Competition Winners- 531 West Little Creek Road, 517 Maycox Avenue, 533 Meads Road

Board Elections

•Nominations

President: Scott Guirlinger

1st Vice President: Anthony Mia

2nd Vice President: Chris DePalma

Secretary: Brenda Grigg

Treasurer: Grea Sellers

Newsletter Editor: Erin Ward

At Large: Liz Lockwood, Joan Griffey, Dan Graves

•All voted in favor of nominees.

The next WCCL Membership meeting is on Monday, February 28, 2022 @ 6:30. The meeting will be virtual.

President Scott Guirlinger then closed the meeting.

# HOLIDAY LIGHTS COMPETITION WINNERS

CIVIC LEAGUE  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

CONTACT  
INFORMATION  
CLICK HERE

DOWNLOAD THE  
MYNORFOLK  
APP



531 West Little Creek Road  
517 Maycox Avenue  
533 Meads Road.

Get real-time flooding updates  
with this new partnership

Real-time flooding updates just got easier thanks to Norfolk's partnership with **RISE**, climate tech FloodMapp and Waze! FloodMapp is testing the integration of their flood forecast technology with **Waze's navigation app here in Norfolk.**

What's this mean for Waze users? Drivers receive pop-up icons and audio alerts to warn them of flooded streets along their route – to help avoid property and life-threatening hazards. Drivers can also confirm flooding in the app with a “thumbs up” to help validate FloodMapp's technology and improve the accuracy of future Waze alerts.

Want to learn more about this partnership? Read the full press release: <https://www.norfolk.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=5878>

## TREASURE'S REPORT

2/12/21	ACCOUNT		
	CHECKS	CASH	PAYPAL
Beginning balance	\$1,324.01	\$70.00	\$1,198.04
Funds received	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.32
Funds deposited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Funds dispersed	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending balance	\$1,249.01	\$70.00	\$1,216.36
Total balance		\$2,535.37	

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