



Ghent Neighborhood League

Wednesday, April 21st 6:30PM
Zoom Virtual Meeting

I. Call to order and introductions at 6:30 PM

II. Guest Speakers

- **Safety Report** – Community Resource Officer Samantha Fentress
- **Norfolk Preservation Collective**- Kayla Halberg, Board Chair
- **GNL Flooding Survey**- Catherine Kilduff, Secretary and Board Member, GNL

III. Committee Reports

- Nominating Committee
- Bylaw Committee (Click links to review DRAFT [Bylaws](#) and [Standing Rules](#))
- [May 1 Cleanup Event](#)
- Membership Renewals

IV. President's Updates

V. Approval of Minutes

VI. New Business/Announcements

Next Meeting: Next meeting is May 19th at 6:30PM.

News You Can Use

- **GNL Seeks Your Input on the Norfolk Multimodal Master Plan**
The GNL presented the Norfolk Multimodal Master Plan to the GNL general membership in March 2021. "Norfolk's Multimodal Master Plan will tie together all the ways we travel – by foot, bus, bike, scooter, or car – into a single plan to make sure they all work together more safely and comfortably." The Norfolk Multimodal Master Plan will include a comprehensive needs assessment for improvement projects as well as operational and maintenance costs. In other words, the plan will help identify priorities for City spending on transportation. The deadline for comments to the GNL is May 28, 2021.

The GNL will be working with the GBA on a joint response to the City, that identifies movement through Ghent and to and from the GNL neighborhood to the Ghent Business District, Chelsea/West Ghent, Downtown, and the Elizabeth River Trail. Please send your comments to admin@ghentneighborhoodleague.org or if you prefer to submit your

comments directly to the City, your inputs can be addressed to comments@multimodalnorfolk.com

- The City of Norfolk has launched a [new flood risk tool](#).
- Elections are coming up! [Click here to Join or Renew your GNL Membership](#).
- [Interested in history of various Norfolk historic properties? Check our Lawrence Morton's map of insights.](#)
- Any issue with trash, neighborhood nuisances, or any city service should be reported to Norfolk Cares using one of the below channels.
 - [Request a Service using MyNorfolk website \(mynorfolk.org\) or app](#)
 - Call 757-664-6510

Ghent Neighborhood League Minutes

March 17, 2021

Next Meeting: April 21, 2021, 6:30 PM, Zoom

Special Guests:

Tiba Salim, Civil Engineer II, The City of Norfolk

Anna Dewey, City Planner 1, The City of Norfolk

I. Call to order and introductions

President Jeremy McGee called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Board members present: Catherine Kilduff, Nat McCormick, Paige Rose, Bob Kelly, Jean Webster, George Kello, Julie Findlay, Larry Brett, JR Montalvo, Karen Reynes

Absent: None

II. Safety Report – Community Resources Officer (CRO) Samantha Fentress

Incidents:

- Woman attacked from behind on West Princess Anne on February 13, and was injured.
- Motor vehicle thefts are down from last month, but still of concern. One was a construction worker who left it running; one was a key fob that fell out of a purse; one at Norfolk General still under investigation.
- Three incidents of shoplifting at 7Eleven.
- Complaints about parking around the dog park.
- There are a few more weeks of NEST. No more complaints about noise at the bus stop at Bossevain, but they will continue to monitor it. Paige Rose noted that a homeowner complained about the time period between 7 and 7:15 a.m.
- Bob Kelly brought up that there are still a number of vehicles with expired tags and expired inspection stickers parked on city streets at Hague area.
- The stolen elm tree on Colonial Ave was brought to Officer Fentress's attention.

Guest Speakers:

III. Mowbray Arch Utility Improvement Update, Tiba Salim, Civil Engineer II, The City of Norfolk

- Summer 2021 completion.
- The project is 60% complete. The water main is complete; sewer line work is ongoing.
- The 400 block of Pembroke has temporary pavement. At the end of the project, it will get a fresh pavement.
- The contractor used Beechwood Park as a parking place. That stopped in less than 24 hours after the City notified them of the complaint.

- No future water outages are expected.
- She is happy to be helpful with any complaints. For example, she heard that a tree was damaged and was happy to help with repairs.
- Larry Brett asked about the poor drainage on Mill Street after the construction. Ms. Salim said part of her project is to re-grade it, and that problem will hopefully be fixed.

IV. Multimodal Transportation Plan Presentation

Anna Dewey, City Planner 1, The City of Norfolk

- Multimodal Norfolk: Master Plan, <https://www.norfolk.gov/4776/Multimodal-Norfolk>
- It is a plan to make sure that Norfolk’s streets are safe for everyone, no matter the transportation used.
- Make getting around Norfolk better and safer. In 2018, 15 were killed in traffic-related incidents, and six of those were pedestrians.
- Equity is also important – ensure that all neighborhoods’ sidewalks and streets are safe.
- Scooters are supposed to be used in the street, not on the sidewalk. The City is going to set up corrals for the scooters. Riders won’t be able to end their trip if they are not parking properly, and will continue to be charged.
- Please go online to use the interactive map to tell the City on where the greatest needs are for walking, bicycling, etc. www.multimodálnorfolk.com
 - You can email comments@multimodálnorfolk.com
 - Or call or text 757-632-0214.
- Along the Hague, Mowbray Arch, the sidewalks get congested because of bikers, dogs, children, etc. on the sidewalks. This is part of the Elizabeth River Trail. Perhaps a sharrow for bikes or a speed limit for 15 mph would help make bikers feel more comfortable in the street along Mowbray Arch.

V. Committee Updates

- Nominating Committee Report.
 - Three new nominees for the upcoming year on the draft ballot (Tim, Stan and Tommy):

PRESIDENT:	Jeremy McGee
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:	Jean Webster
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:	JR Montalvo
TREASURER:	Larry Brett
SECRETARY:	Tim Dorsey

GENERAL BOARD MEMBERS*

Stan Howard

Tommy Leeman

Nat McCormick

* These are two-year terms

- ii. A motion passed to approve the nominations.
- iii. All electronic ballots need to be returned by May 15.
- Bylaw Update. The Board is taking suggestions about the draft amendments. There will be amendments to the articles of incorporation, and then the bylaw amendments will be passed.
 - i. One comment from a member was that any changes will be tracked so that members can see what is proposed. Jeremy proposed a summary of changes in light of the fact that the bylaws were comprehensively rewritten to be clearer.
- February Cleanup Event was a great success! The quadrangle was bounded by Colley Ave., 21st, Hampton Blvd., and Maury.
- The May Cleanup Event will take place in Raleigh Ave. Playground on May 1, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., followed by a social gathering. Tasks will include trimming ivy and reclaiming the volleyball court (replacing sand).
 - i. One suggestion was to add no smoking signs around the park. Tim Dorsey will look for whether there is a City ordinance about it.
- Please come to the first Ghent Farmer's Market on April 2, from 4 to 7 p.m. in front of Blair Middle School on the first and third Fridays of the month.
- Membership renewal: Join via the Ghent Neighborhood League website.

VI. President's Report:

- Jeremy will have a work session with the Dog Park Board and the GNL Board. He expects that there will be a plan to spruce up the dog park.
- Pay the membership dues as we go into election season. We will be forming committees again, design review, communications, etc. Please consider getting involved.

VII. Approval of Minutes

- The February 2021 membership meeting and Board meeting minutes (March 14) were approved by voice vote.

VIII. New Business

- Nominations for Norfolk Preservation Collective's Second Annual Preservation Awards of Excellence are now open and due April 12. More information can be found at their website. Norfolkpreservationcollective.org/preservation-awards
- This is the last week to fill out the flood survey at <https://www.ghentneighborhoodleague.org/floodsurvey>.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.