



Ghent Neighborhood League

Wednesday, May 19th 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 Flood Risk Learning Center-** Matt Simons, Principal City Planner and Floodplain Administrator

III. Committee Reports

- Bylaw Committee ([Click here for a full summary](#))
- May 1 Cleanup Event Report
- Election Results

IV. President's Updates

V. Approval of Minutes

VI. New Business/Announcements

Next Meeting: Next meeting is June 16th 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](#).
- [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 MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Next meeting: May 19, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Special Guest:

Kayla Halberg, Norfolk Preservation Collective

I. Call to order and introductions

The meeting was called to order by Jeremy McGee promptly at 6:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Paige Rose, Julie Findlay

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

The GNL's NPD Community Relations Officer, Samantha Fentress, presented the status of crime activity in Ghent. General comments included:

- Burglary at East Coast Bicycles.
- Park incident on April 7, 2100 hours, an individual sustained self-inflicted wounds that were non-life threatening.
- Inquiries about the Dog Park tickets issued. She has asked parking enforcement, but they do not track this easily.
- Homeless encampment. They are still under orders not to engage with those on 19th St.
- Parking enforcement - are they enforcing zone parking? Officer Fentress suggests calling the non-emergency number.

III. Guest Speaker:

Kayla Halberg, Norfolk Preservation Collective.

- Now Norfolk Preservation Collective is an official 501(c)(3).
- Second annual preservation awards will be this year. Nominations were due on April 12. Currently judges are reviewing candidates.
- Reception will be at Makers Craft Brewery to announce the winners on May 12.
- Check out their website, sign up for their newsletter, and look for them on Facebook. They will be accepting new members in May.
- National preservation month is May. This year there will be a signed proclamation from Norfolk's Mayor.

- Neighbors building neighborhoods. This will be an educational seminar including tools for preservation.
- May is also national bike month. They will have a bike ride starting and ending at Makers Craft Brewery.
- Question: Taylor Whittle House, a city-owned property, intended demolition by neglect? A: They are not involved but are aware about the concerns.

IV. Flood Committee Presentation

Catherine Kilduff gave a summary of the results of the flood mitigation survey.

V. Board Elections

- Candidate Introduction
 - Stan Howard. In Norfolk since 1992. Retired ODU police officer. A professional musician who is often performing in Virginia Beach.
 - Tim Dorsey. Running to fill the Secretary position. Attorney in private practice.
 - Tommy Leeman. Maury Ave. Works in Dominion Tower.

VI. By-laws Committee

- The amendments are in draft form and attached to the agenda. One other amendment regarding a Ghent Square liaison is pending.
 - Boundaries - There was a historical disconnect between the by-laws and the articles of incorporation.
 - Process for amending the by-laws - There was also a disconnect between the by-laws and articles of incorporation that will be rectified.
 - Concern from L. Gillen: The provision that allows people to join in order to vote on a controversial topic will dilute the current membership's voice.
 - Concern from W. Ott: The ability of the Board to change the by-laws will be unfair to the broader membership.

VII. May 1 Cleanup

- Raleigh Park. Ivy trimming, trash pickup, volleyball court improvements.
- Signup link for the May 1 Cleanup: <https://www.ghentneighborhoodleague.org/ghent-cleanup-event-may-1/>

VIII. President's Report:

- Pat Clay, founder of GNL, passed away this week. But for his efforts, we would not be here.

- Have discussed with the Ghent Business Association the topic of the homeless encampment on 19th St. Jeremy will be meeting with the City about it.
- Norfolk's multi-modal transportation survey is open. Please email comments to GNL or send directly to the City.

Minutes Approved by voice vote with one change: The noise complaints are for the hour from 6:15 to 7:15 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.