



Ghent Neighborhood League

Wednesday, June 16th 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
- **Colley Manor Update**- Matthew Fischer, Tesseract
- **State of the GNL**- Jeremy McGee, President, GNL

III. Articles of Incorporation Amendment Vote ([Click here for a full summary](#))

IV. Committee Reports

- July 4th Bike Parade
- Other Committee Reports

V. Approval of Minutes

VI. New Business/Announcements

Next Meeting: Next meeting is July 21st at 6:30PM.

News You Can Use

- [Check out DNC's Fast Facts](#) for a listing of events occurring in downtown throughout the summer.
- 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, May 19, 2021

Next meeting: June 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Special Guest: Matthew Simons, Norfolk Principal Planner and Floodplain Manager

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, Larry Brett, JR Montalvo, Paige Rose, Karen Reynes, Julie Findlay

Absent: George Kello

II. Guest Speaker: Matthew Simons, Norfolk Principal Planner and Floodplain Manager

Repetitive Loss

- Repetitive loss areas in Ghent is an area with more than two flood claims in a 10 year period, and at least \$5,000 claim or more. Those areas are ones where solutions are needed.
- Four percent of Norfolk's repetitive loss properties are in Ghent
- What to do to reduce flood insurance costs:



What can you do to reduce your flood insurance costs?

1. Obtain an Elevation Certificate (EC)
2. Talk to your Insurance Agent
 - a. Is my premium cheaper if I "submit the EC for my rate" or would my premium increase? – policyholder is allowed to accept the cheaper option
 - b. Is my property "minus rated" according to the EC?
 - i. If so, send your EC to Matthew.Simons@norfolk.gov
3. Discuss mitigation options with your neighbors
 - a. Most mitigation options have been explored by your neighbors already (fill-in basement, flood vents, elevating HVAC, adding sand to crawl space, etc.)
4. Discuss the options with a range of contractors
5. Remember that alterations visible from the street must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from ARB

Flood Preparedness

Hurricane Preparedness

- Take a video of all contents of the home prior to the storm, and pictures outside the home. That will help with the claims with the insurance adjustor.

The website Norfolk.FloodRiskCenter.com gives a personalized flood risk for that property.

- The website provides a flood risk over the term of a 30-year mortgage.

Questions and Answers:

- To develop non-structural projects in Ghent, look at the City's green infrastructure plan. It's a living document, and includes, for example, a section on threatened and endangered species. The stormwater department works with the Flood Manager on special projects. Look at that and let him know if anything looks good.

- How is management working? What's the impact on the City from the flood mitigation measures? In some areas, it's redevelopment to be more resilient to floods. But in historic areas, the changes are less substantial – moving an HVAC, for example.
- For some properties, elevated flood risk touches a parcel, but doesn't include the whole property. In those case, often put in a higher flood zone.
 - Usually this can be taken care of by looking at the elevation certificate and see where the property's elevation is from the base flood grade. A corner could be protected to reduce flood insurance premiums.
 - Still need to be aware that if you have utilities in the basement, you are still exposed to major risk.
- Look for the Next Door case study of a resident that shaved off money from insurance premiums.

III. By-laws Committee

- Articles of Incorporation amendments will be up for a vote at the June 16 membership meeting.

IV. Election Results

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

- President McGee thanked the departing board members: George Kello, Catherine Kilduff, and Karen Reynes.

V. May 1 Cleanup

- The Raleigh Park event was successful and fun. It included ivy trimming, clearing overgrown walkways, and trash pickup in the park and surrounding neighborhood.
- Volleyball court improvements seemed to have occurred prior to the cleanup. Norfolk Parks and Recreation has a supply of sand from Ocean View that can be brought in; the net was up.

VI. Announcements

- The Plot has a bike ride this Friday.
- July 4th Bike Parade
- Ghent Farmers Market is first and third Fridays.

Minutes from the April membership meeting were approved by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.