



# Ghent Neighborhood League

Wednesday, July 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 Commissioner of the Revenue Candidates**
  - Adam Goldberg, Commissioner of the Revenue Candidate
  - Nicole Freeman, Commissioner of the Revenue Candidate
- **Norfolk Commissioner of the Revenue** – Ms. Blythe A Scott, Commissioner of the Revenue
- **Norfolk Sheriff** – Mr. Joseph P. Baron
- **Hague Goose Problem** – Bruce Dalcher, GNL Member

## III. Revised Bylaw Vote ([Click here for a full summary](#))

## IV. Committee Reports

- Board Retreat

## IV. Upcoming Member Meetings

- August Break
- September – Private tour of the Chrysler! [Click Here to Sign Up.](#)

## V. Approval of Minutes

## VI. New Business/Announcements

**Next Meeting:** Next meeting is September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM at the Chrysler Museum

## News You Can Use

- NFK Currents Email Newsletter has a great summary of local news and events. [Click here for the latest issue](#) and to subscribe.
- [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](http://mynorfolk.org)) or app
- Call 757-664-6510

**GHENT NEIGHBORHOOD LEAGUE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 16, 2021**

**Call to order and introductions**

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

Board members present: Jeremy McGee , Jean Webster, JR Montalvo, Tim Dorsey, Larry Brett, Bob Kelly, Julie Findlay, Nat McCormick,

Absent: Stan Howard, Tommy Leeman, Paige Rose

**I. 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:

Stolen vehicles and vehicle break-ins - Keys and other visible items being left in cars

Bike parade – she will be present.

Tent City – call the non-emergency police phone number if we get new tent pop ups

**II. Guest Speaker:**

**Matthew Fischer, Tesseract – Colley Manor Update**

- 832 Brandon Ave (Brandon and Core): Owner and property manager are talking to neighbors about what they are seeing.
- Matthew Fischer owns the bldg.; Tesseract Rentals manages it.
- It is a 30+ day rental, so it is not regulated as a short-term rental.
- Parking: though it is not a short-term rental, property has one dedicated parking space per unit (exceeds short-term rental requirements).
- Decibel meter installed in each unit now, so Tesseract gets a notification if residents are being loud.
- Trash contractor will now come twice a week instead of once.
- A sign will be posted with a contact number for Tesseract.

**III. Articles of Incorporation Amendment**

The original 1963 Articles of Incorporation (“Articles”) has an outdated statement about the purpose of the GNL and an outdated description of the geographic boundaries of the GNL for purposes of membership. The original 1963 Articles also makes it very difficult to amend the bylaws because it requires a majority vote of all voting members (not a majority at a meeting).

The Board recommended to the membership that the Articles of Incorporation be amended (1) to provide flexibility in defining the geographic boundaries of the GNL for purposes of membership; (2) to better define the purpose of the GNL; and (3) make bylaws amendments subject to a majority vote at called meetings. Articles of Amendment were proposed and submitted to the membership. On May 15, 2021, a notice was provided to the members advising that the proposed Articles of Amendment would be voted on during the June 15, 2021 membership meeting.

A motion was made by Bob Kelly and seconded by Julie Findlay to approve the proposed Articles of Amendment.

Total Voting Members Present: 15

Votes For: 14

Votes Against: 1

#### **IV. State of the GNL – Jeremy McGee**

##### 2020 Priorities (and Results)

- Historic Preservation
  - Reviewed and provided input on numerous ARB and City Planning Commission projects
  
- Beautification and Community Improvement
  - Aug 2020 community clean up around Maury
  - Nov tree planting and cleanup around Stockley Gardens
  - Feb cleanup along Colley
  - May 2021 Raleigh Park clean up
  
- Flood and Resilience
  - Cleanup events
  - Multiple speakers
  - Flood Survey
  - Flooding advocacy plan in work
  
- Community and Membership Improvement
  - New Website
  - Electronic Voting
  - Improved membership renewal process
  - New Quarterly newsletter
  - Zero missed meetings during COVID

##### Goals

- Community Service
- Adopt and area
- Tree planting
- Dog park
- Twice a month meetings
- 150-160 members

All goals were met, except maintaining membership (slight drop).

#### Membership

- 59 members expired
- 18 new addresses
- Current members = 122 members

#### Finances

- \$2,847.91 as of 4/30/2021
- \$8,460.94 in savings
- We waived membership dues in 2020 due to pandemic

#### **V. New Items**

Items to discuss at Board retreat:

- Karen Reynes: Engagement at governmental and community meetings.
- Kevin Kearney: How to market to Ghent Square for GNL membership
- Walter Ott: Homelessness issues

#### **VI. July 4 Bike Parade**

9:30 am start. At Chrysler Museum. Decorate bikes festively. Popsicles at end

#### **VII. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of May 19, 2021 meeting Approved by voice vote.

#### **I. Next Meeting**

Next membership meeting: July 21, 2021, 6:30 p.m., Zoom  
Board Retreat June 28 at 5:30.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.