

The February meeting of the Northampton Civic League (NHCL) was called to order at 7:18 pm by Selvin Walker, NHCL President. Seven people were in attendance.

The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

President Walker welcomed the attendees, including one new person.

League Business:

Matt Asay, NHCL Secretary summarized the minutes from the January meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously with four corrections.

Selvin then presented the statement of the league's finances on behalf of Treasurer Samara Walker who was delayed. The initial balance was \$446.00. There were no income or expense items, leaving a final balance at \$446.00 as well. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Matters from Members and League Officers:

President Walker asked for issues of interest or concern from those present.

Karen Duncan reported on events at the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting. Both of the items from our area were approved. The church sign proposal from Mercy Seat Baptist Church is undergoing some modifications.

Selvin reported on information from Carolyn Brewer on the Superintendent's 5th Annual Community Priorities Workshop. It will be held from 6-9pm on February 18th. RSVPs are requested by February 4th. Karen Duncan indicated that she planned to attend.

Selvin also shared information from Sabrina Jones on the National Youth Violence Prevention Workshop. It will be held on Wednesday, February 11 at 4pm at the Rupert Sargent building.

He also mentioned police notices that had been forwarded by Jonathan McBride. Apparently some of Mr. McBride's neighbors had been victimized.

Elections:

President Walker shared a letter from Flora Randall who asked to be relieved of her office as Secretary, due to the press of her job responsibilities.

Matt Asay accepted a nomination for the office of Secretary.

Alonzo Duncan accepted a nomination for the office of Vice President.

Since all present were voting in the election, a member of the NHCC staff, André Manning, was asked to count the ballots.

Results of the ballot were:

Vice President: Alonzo Duncan 5 Karen Duncan 1
Secretary: Matt Asay 6

Boundaries:

President Walker noted that the vote taken last meeting to change the league's boundaries to match the current Neighborhood District 1 was in effect a change to the bylaws and, according to the league's bylaws, any change to them requires a confirming vote at the following meeting.

A confirming motion was made and seconded to change the Northampton Civic League boundaries to be the area enclosed by Interstate 64, West Mercury Boulevard, and the Hampton/Newport News City line. The motion was approved unanimously.

Matt Asay confirmed his action item to create a new membership brochure with the boundary wording and map revised to reflect the new boundaries. It was noted that we should check the wording against the boundaries listed on the Neighborhood Office web site.

Matters from the public:

Email from new Benjamin Landing Homeowners Association indicated that they were planning a March meeting (although there was no date yet) where they were discussing becoming a registered neighborhood organization. Karen Duncan indicated that she would recommend that they also form a Neighborhood Watch group (given recent events in the area). They also indicated that they were concerned with people speeding through the neighborhoods.

Two months ago President Walker received email from the Principal at Kraft. She indicated problems with graffiti on the walking trail and requested our help on the issue. There was some concern that some of the spray painted marks might be gang related, but the police department now doesn't think so. Selvin will try to contact the principal to discuss what has been done and how the NHCL might participate.

Flora Randall stopped by briefly to say she had missed the meeting because her sister had died in Atlanta and she was making preparations to drive there. The assemble members expressed their condolences and wished her a safe journey.

Civic League member and District 1 Commissioner Karen Duncan indicated that she was retiring from her civil service job with the military on May 6 and planning a trip to Puerto Rico and a cruise. We all wished her well.

Finally, President Walker noted that, with the current economic downturn, he had a number of inquiries from people looking for work. He requested that we forward to him any information we came across on job openings. He promised to share with us any information he received..

Membership: There was one new member, Carolyn Phaup, and no renewals at the meeting.

Adjournment: President Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3rd, 2009.

Action Items:

(Items carried over from previous meetings)

- Karen Duncan to distribute information on the meeting schedules of other civic organizations.
- Samara Walker to provide list of members needing renewal notices to Matt Asay
- Matt Asay to provide member list to Cheryl McElraft for contacting missing and expired members.
- Karen Duncan to provide information on the new Neighborhood College structure and class schedule.
- Karen Duncan to provide information on the new Neighborhood Commission small grant process.
- Selvin Walker to distribute T-shirt ordering information to members via Matt Asay.
- Matt Asay to bring in the NHCL meeting sign so it can be put into use again.
- Matt Asay to update the NHCL membership brochure to reflect the new boundaries.

(New items)

- All members to forward information on job openings to Selvin Walker who will share them with the membership.

Matt Asay

NHCL Secretary

As approved at the March 3, 2009 meeting.

03/18/2009