

# Northampton Civic League

## Minutes 05/03/2005

The May meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by NHCL President Bernice Jackson. There were 7 people present.

The President opened with a pledge to the flag. The agendas were distributed with a couple of other attachments to be discussed.

Secretary Matt Asay read the minutes for the April meeting. The minutes were approved with one correction.

There was no Treasurer's report.

The President reported that the Neighborhood Commission had reviewed our grant application to fund publicity for the yard sale and declined to fund it, ruling that it represented a "fund raising" activity. Attached to the agenda was copy of a letter from Ted Henefin (who is the chairman of the Neighborhood Commission's Resource Committee). In spite of their decision:

- The commission provided us with 200 copies of an NHCL flier to be used in our promotion. The fliers have black printing on yellow paper.
- The commission paid for the yard sale permit and provided a set of two signs for each member of the yard sale committee to be used for sales on the participating member's street.
- Our yard sale will be included in all publicity listing Neighborhood Month events.

There was considerable discussion of both the decision by the commission and the exact terms of what the special yard sale permit allowed. Matt Asay, who sits on the Neighborhood Commission, promised to raise the matter at the next commission meeting and seek a clarification of just what constitutes "fund raising" since the civic league will not make any profit from the yard sales. Bernice said that the permits allowed any family on a sponsoring member's street to have their own sale. There was a copy of the original permit provided for each sponsor. The President said she would check and see if additional members could be added to the list that had been previously provided to the city. The President indicated that each sponsor would need to be a civic league member.

Under new business the following additional topics were discussed:

- Vice President Wendell Midkiff introduced a new member, Mr. Selvin Walker. Mr. Walker recently retired from the military and wants to become more involved in his neighborhood.
- The President asked that all civic league related information received by any member be passed on to her so that she is aware of all of what is going on. The President also asked that any discussions or correspondence representing Civic League business be cleared through her before going out.
- The president will distribute an agenda before each meeting, so let her know about any items you wish to have included in it.
- There was additional discussion about the timeliness of the minutes. They need to be distributed for review and corrections within two weeks of the meeting. There was considerable debate about the merits of doing this via the "office" area of the web site versus directly mailing it to the last meeting's attendees for comments. It was finally decided that we will try the latter approach for a while and see how well it works. The Secretary indicated that he would shoot for distribution within a week or so but pledged that it would be two weeks at the most. After the minutes have been circulated to those present and corrections made, they will be posted on the web site for the rest of the membership and the general public to read.
- Karen and Alonzo Duncan indicated that they had some problems getting into the "member's only" section of the web site. Since the webmaster was not present to solve their problem, it was deferred until they are able to talk to him.

- The deadline for submitting agenda items to the President will be one week before the next meeting.
- Elections for new civic league officers, which were previously deferred, were discussed. It was decided that the topic will be an item on the June agenda.
- There was discussion of an email received by the Secretary about a proposal by Walmart to rezone a 32-acre parcel just across the Newport News city line on the Hampton Roads Center Parkway for a super center and gas station. Butch Heath, who sits on the Planning Commission said that he would seek further information from his contacts in the Hampton Planning Department (who provided the original information to Matt). The matter goes before the Newport News Planning Commission on June 1st at 2:00pm at the Newport News city hall.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:50 pm. The next general meeting was scheduled for Tuesday June 7th at the Northampton Community Center.

**Matt Asay, NHCL Secretary**