

The May meeting of the Northampton Civic League (NHCL) was called to order at 7:05 pm by Selvin Walker, NHCL President. Six (6) people were in attendance.

The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

Matt Asay, NHCL Secretary presented the minutes from the April meeting, and offered his thanks to Flora Randall for handling them in his absence. The minutes were approved with 2 corrections.

Samara Walker, NHCL Treasurer provided a summary of the League finances. There were no disbursements and the opening and ending balance were the same at \$388.23.

League Activities:

Chris Hosman, a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member, noted that in the last weekend in June there will be a Public Radio Display Field Day at the Northampton Church of Christ on Todds Lane. It is designed to provide emergency communications practice for Ham radio operators and to educate the general public. There will be a contest to talk to as many other radio stations as possible over a 24-hour period. The City Council members have been invited. Members of the general public will also have an opportunity to get on the station and try their hand. Chris will email Matt more information about the field day to share with members

A ham radio license class will be offered at the church starting September 20th for 5 consecutive Saturdays for 4 hours each day. Chris noted that there have been about 40 or so graduates from the class to date.

Flora Randall noted that she was volunteering to stuff bags and act as a greeter at NUSA 2008 (Neighborhoods, USA 2008 Conference): May 21 through May 24, 2008, She will be attending the "How to Recruit People" class and the closing luncheon on Saturday. President Selvin Walker will be a presenter at the conference. Secretary Matt Asay is also volunteering.

Flo noted the popular practice of trading pins enjoyed by many NUSA conference attendees. She noted that in the future perhaps the NHCL could come up with their own pin that members could distribute and trade when they attended subsequent conferences. We discussed having some nice NHCL business cards printed up for our volunteers and conference attendees to hand out to prospective members at the conference. Matt agreed to contact Darryl Krauch about using the design he had developed previously.

Secretary Samara Walker noted that this week is National Nurses Week. Flo noted that Colorectal Cancer test kits, similar to those discussed at our last meeting by the Nurse from Sentara were also offered at another meeting she attended.

Chris noted that there was an effort underway to contact Neighborhood Watch groups about

becoming CERT teams. He noted that because of privacy concerns they had to forward the request indirectly and wait to see if any groups contacted CERT.

He also noted that, although there are about 15 people in the Northampton Area with CERT training it has been difficult to coordinate activities over such a large area. The league discussed dedicating one of our future meetings as a forum. The August meeting is the tentative target. Chris will contact Roger Mowery (the Northampton CERT Team leader and an NHCL member) and ask him to contact Selvin to discuss the plan.

There was some discussion of possible gang activity. One member noted that she had seen several policemen in her area (near Headrow Terrace). The member questioned one of them about what was going on and they said they were looking for some youths on bicycles that they wanted to question concerning some break-ins in the area. Another member reported that he had seen a stylized "CWB" spray painted on a couple of area fences and wondered if it might be a gang sign. The president said that he would put some form of this topic on our agenda for June 3.

We talked about the possibility of using the school marquees, especially during the summer to advertise the existence of the civic league (perhaps "Northampton Civic League www.nhcl.hamptonva.net"). Cheryl volunteered to contact area school principals about the use of their signs. Flo offered to put together an initial draft of an invitation to school principals to come to one of our meetings and find out about the NHCL while we found out about their issues.

Officer Matters: None

Matters by the Public: None.

Membership: No new members joined at this meeting. There was one renewal.

Adjournment: President Walker adjured the meeting at 8:21 pm. The next meeting will be on June 3, 2008.

NHCL appreciates visitors; those interested in joining; and neighbors identifying issues that we should work together for resolution in our neighborhood.

Action Items:

- Matt Asay to contact Darryl Krauch about NHCL business cards for NUSA conference
- Chris Hosman will send Matt additional information about the Ham Radio Field Day
- Chris Hosman will contact Roger Mowery concerning league sponsorship for a Northampton CERT meeting.
- Cheryl McElraft will contact area principals about using their signs for NHCL ads.
- Flora Randall will draft an invitation for area school principals to visit an NHCL meeting.

Matt Asay

NHCL Secretary

As corrected and approved at the June 3, 2008 meeting.

07/31/08