

Northampton Civic League Minutes 08/01/2006

The August meeting of the Northampton Civic league was called to order at 7:03 by NHCL President Bernice Jackson. There were 9 people present including one new visitor, Ms. Kitty Walters.

The meeting opened with a pledge to the flag.

The President welcomed Ms. Walters who had come at the invitation of Jean McQuillan.

Secretary Matt Asay summarized the July minutes which were approved with no corrections.

Noting that the Treasurer was not present to present a statement, the Secretary reported that the last bank statement received had shown the same \$192.83 balance in the NHCL bank account. The cash balance was not known.

Unfinished Business

The discussion begun at the last meeting of the benefits of and impediments to becoming a Registered Neighborhood organization via the Hampton Neighborhood Commission continued. Wendell Midkiff suggested that we apply for membership and "see what happens." There was a discussion of the various ways the NHCL is using to spread the word of our existence and what we do. Selvin Walker reported on his searches on the web for resources for civic leagues. He mentioned the link he had found to a trove of information from the National Civic League association in Washington, DC. He offered to email the link to everyone so they could look at the information themselves.

There was much discussion of possible changes of the league boundaries and what to do about areas, such as Farmington, within our boundaries that have their own civic associations. Someone mentioned that the best way to disseminate information was via "shoe leather." Other avenues were via fliers, business cards, and posting at locations such as the community center and cooperative local businesses. Also discussed were the possibility of supplementing our big NHCC meeting sign with smaller signs to be placed around the neighborhoods.

New Business

Matt Asay noted that other civic organizations had gotten ideas and gotten re-energized by attending the annual Virginia Neighborhood Conference. Karen Duncan, our District 1 Commissioner, reported that this years conference would be held on September 21st in Danville.

We discussed the possibility of inviting representatives from the other civic groups within our area to our meeting. Ms. Duncan reported that she has had trouble establishing communication with most of them and that she is still working on the issue.

We discussed how best to go about completing the Registered Neighborhood Organization application. It was decided to set up a special meeting for those interested and able to attend on Tuesday August 22. Vice President Wendell Midkiff volunteered to see if a room at the community center would be available. *[Secretary's note: The location of this meeting was later changed to the President's house for logistical reasons.]* Karen Duncan offered to act as a central repository for people's email feedback on registration.

The President reported on a request from a local business, Liberty Tax Service, to speak to the civic league on the topic of "Home ownership and tax tips." She inquired as to the level of interest in the topic. The members decided to decline the offer at this time.

Our web site master, Darryl Krauch, indicated that by the time of the next meeting he hoped to have a "skeleton" layout for a sponsor page added to the web site.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:40 pm. The next meeting will be September 5th at 7:00 pm.

Memberships: There was 1 new member and no renewals.

Matt Asay, NHCL Secretary