

Northampton Civic League Minutes 11/01/2005

The November meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by NHCL President Bernice Jackson. There were 11 people present.

The President opened with a pledge to the flag.

Secretary Matt Asay summarized the minutes for the October meeting. The minutes were approved with one correction.

Treasurer Butch Heath provided a verbal summary of the league's finances for October, explaining that his hard drive had gone bad. The starting balance was 145.73. There were 2 membership renewals for a total of 18.00 and no disbursements. The ending balance was 167.73. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

There was a brief discussion of Mr. Heath's motion at the last meeting concerning dues for elected officials. Mr. Heath indicated he would contact Delegate BaCote and offer her a complimentary membership.

The amendments to the bylaws (clarifying the duties of the Secretary and Treasurer) that were proposed at the September meeting were presented for a second and final vote (since the bylaws specify advance notice to the members before a final vote on changes).

The old paragraph in bylaws reads:

The secretary and treasurer shall be responsible for all records and financial matters and perform such other duties as usually pertain to those officers. The bank statements shall be addressed to the secretary.

The new section for the Secretary reads:

The Secretary shall keep minutes and records of all meetings of the NHCL and forward a copy of the monthly meeting minutes to the Executive Committee of the NHCL not later than 20 calendar days after each meeting; keeps the roster of current membership; provide a quarterly report of members and their dues status; receives all monies and records the amount received in the minutes; provides all monies received to the Treasurer. Send out meeting notices at the direction of the President.

This section was again approved unanimously by the members attending.

The new section for the Treasurer reads:

The Treasurer receives funds from the Secretary; deposits all monies in the name of the Organization in such depositories selected by the Executive Board. Prepares and distributes a monthly report of receipts and expenses; prepares and distributes annual Treasurer's reports at the meeting prior to the Annual Election of Officers. The Treasurer shall make the financial books and records of the NHCL available for examination and audit by the Executive Board and bonafide member(s) or others when approved by the Executive Board.

This section was again approved unanimously by the members attending.

The majority of the meeting was taken up with a discussion of Flooding and Drainage issues that included two new area residents and Councilwomen Angela Leary and her husband Tom who were in attendance.

- Area resident Dale Staley talked about his concerns with flooding in the area. He has been a Northampton resident for 5 years and a citizen of Hampton since 1971
- Another newcomer to our meeting was Dave Kerstin who has been a Hampton resident for 24 years. He lives at the end of a cul-de-sac with the only drain on the block being right in front of his house. When there is a big rain, all the drainage debris ends up in front of his house. He described how he and his wife had to evacuate through his backyard during Hurricane Floyd.

- There was a general agreement that the problem seems to have gotten worse over the years as more of the area has been developed and paved over. The pictures Matt had taken of the flooding along Todds lane were reviewed. The possible problem of Fire and Rescue vehicles being unable to get out of the Todds lane firehouse was also mentioned.
- We talked about how much of the problem might be traced to slow drainage into Newmarket Creek and from there into the Bay. We traced it circuitous route across Hampton to the Back River and the Chesapeake Bay. There was some mention of the Army Corps of Engineers study of Newmarket Creek and how the City of Hampton had apparently declined their assistance in maintaining the drainage.
- The Councilwomen said that she would take our concerns to the City Council at one of their work sessions and seek more information from Public Works about the history of flooding over the years. She promised to provide a followup after she had received the information. She noted that drainage problems can be expensive to address and that as of 2004 the estimated price tag on infrastructure repairs for Hampton was over \$200 million.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:32 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 6th.

Memberships: 1 Renewal (Butch Heath), no new members. \$9.00 total

Matt Asay, NHCL Secretary