

September 9, 2013

FAIRFIELD CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING MINUTES

Fairfield Civic Meeting started at 7:00 pm with President, Matt Maxwell leading the residents in the Pledge of Allegiance. 45 residents were present and the month of September had no guest speaker as it was an opportunity to introduce the Civic League officers and other important neighborhood involved citizens:

President: Matt Maxwell

V. President: Brad Lerner

Treasurer: Betty Virok

Secretary: Kathy Donovan

Webmaster: position open (Kevin Johnson outgoing)

Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Conyers

Newsletter: Jim Donovan

Traffic Calming: Stevey Callahan

Garden Club: Mary Butrym

Fox Run Canal: Aden Scott, Rob Finter and Sean McGinty

Kempsville Historic District: Doug McLiverty and Stephen Mannix

Matt discussed several ways to communicate alerts and items of interest within Fairfield ...Social media such as Facebook, email and now, "Nextdoor Neighbor." Matt allowed each committee to give an update.

1. Neighborhood Watch – Barb discussed E-Pro – electronic police reports online, incident report numbers, no personal information or house information/address. Click on the link provided:

<http://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/police/pages/eipro.aspx>

Police non-emergency number – use if you see something out of the ordinary/suspicious. Barb provided magnetic decals with the number. An example is a door-to-door salesman that may be looking in windows and looking around the house, just not right – call the non-emergency number.

Question: Is Nextdoor Neighbor not duplicative of Facebook website? Ans: yes, but many people do not use Facebook. There may be a way to link the two together if you subscribe to both, but will take someone to look into this.

Info from a Nextdoor Neighbor user: When you first join, you may see other neighborhoods – there is a way to turn this off so you only get info for Fairfield. You also can turn off your name and address and just have your street shown.

Question: How to get more people involved in neighborhood watch?

Ans: The residents need to be invested in our community and interested in the program. Go to Fairfield website and click on neighborhood watch and there is a simple form to complete.

2. **Newsletter** – Jim: The newsletter is published twice a year: October and April. We use Special Persons Mailing Services – drawback is that they only publish in black and white. However, it is important for us to support this local company. To advertise in the newsletter the following charges apply: \$20 for quarter page, \$40 for half, and \$80 for full. If you have any questions contact Jim Donovan.

Matt commented that the newsletter goes out to 770 homes – what a great way to advertise, really great price!

3. Fairfield Garden Club – Mary: We encourage gardening to improve our neighborhood and maintain our home. This year the Garden Club has added a new flyer called “green thumbs up” with info on back about the garden club.

The club meets on the 2nd Tues of every month at Emmanuel Church. Members gather at 0930 with the program starting at 1000.

It costs roughly \$4,000 a year to maintain the medians –the proceeds come mainly from the plant sale: 5244 Locke Lane. Watch for upcoming fall plant sale signs.

Rosemary Flamman gave a shout out and thank you to the Fairfield Garden club for working and keeping up the Fairfield Elementary school gardens. 😊

4. Traffic Committee- Stevey: The Committee has been working the traffic calming on Lord Dunmore – excessive volume (avoiding 7 stop lights by cutting through the neighborhood) and speed (street is wider than normal). Met with Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammonds and she has set up another meeting with the City Traffic Manager to put proposals in priority order (i.e. bump-outs (neck down the street)) good news is that we have involvement.

Steve: The Committee is working on a plan with the city to develop traffic calming actions such as a series of obstacles (i.e. neck downs and bump outs) and potential painted parking spots. When the petition is presented 75 to 80% of residents impacted must sign off for the petition to go forward. Steve

has three copies of proposed actions to view at the conclusion of the meeting.

Question: Who will maintain these obstacles? The ones in Portsmouth are in really bad condition.

Ans. Not sure, assuming the city will maintain, but will ensure that is defined.

Question: What is the objection to the speed bumps in the neighborhood? Police indicate there have been too many incidents (damaged cars). The police do not like them. The committee has a list of 12 options.

Question: Is it possible to contact Wheeler, who is the property manager for the shopping center? Now seeing armored trucks, Lays trucks, etc. driving through the neighborhood.

Ans. Yes, that is a good idea.

Question: What is 75 – 80% of affected area? How does that come into play?

Ans. For example, if the priority was to dead end Lord Dunmore then a map would be drawn with high impact zones on Lord Dunmore, Fairfield and Locke. Resident wants Rolleston included.

Question: Do we have any info on how much radar is being run on Lord Dunmore and Balfor Dr. to eliminate speeding? Would like to see it more than 1 every 6 months.

Ans. We do not know, please call the 4th precinct.

Matt concluded that there were lots of developments; however, Walgreens has not been approved yet. The apartments have been approved. There are several partials in the NE corridor – we are trying to get the city to buy them up. Finally, Fox Run

Canal is still an issue and the committee continues to work with the city.

New Business:

1. Members voted to include Town Homes off Lord Dunmore in Civic League. Condo's that are behind the Town Homes already have their own association; however, we will look into that and ask if they want to be part of our association.

2. 4th of July Parade: We would like to have a 4th of July parade where we walk from Fairfield Elementary School to the park. There was a sign up list in back of room for those interested in working on a committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.