

Fairfield Civic League

November 6, 2017

74 people were in attendance including Fairfield residents, John Bell supporters and Ken Stolle supporters.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03. President Doug McLiverty led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance then outlined the program for the hour long meeting. The first 30 minutes were allotted to the candidates running for Sheriff in Virginia Beach, John Bell and Sheriff Ken Stolle. Each candidate was given 10 minutes to talk about themselves and their platform and then answer the questions of Fairfield residents for the next 5 minutes.

John Bell (<https://johnbellforsheriff.com>) has been in law enforcement for 40 years, starting his career in the New York City Transit Police Department. In 1976 he started his career in the Virginia Beach Police Department working assignments as a detective, patrol sergeant, lieutenant and captain. He retired from the Virginia Beach Police Department January 1, 2016 as the Deputy Chief of Police after almost 40 years of service. If elected as Sheriff he is committed to establishing reentry programs for released inmates, keeping police officers on the streets by allowing sheriff's department officers to transfer mentally ill persons to treatment facilities, and building relationships with young people to break the "school to prison cycle." He answered questions about his lack of military service and the opioid epidemic.

Ken Stolle (<https://www.kenstolle.com/>) is the current Virginia Beach Sheriff and has been a public servant for nearly 40 years. He served in the Virginia Beach Police Department 1976 to 1987 as a Patrolman, Narcotics Detective, SWAT Team Leader, and Tactical Team Sergeant. As a Lieutenant in the USNR, Ken was assigned to the Naval Investigative Service to assist with foreign counter-intelligence. After reading law, Sheriff Stolle passed the bar exam and became a licensed attorney. He was elected the Chairman of the Virginia Beach Republican Party and was a member of the Senate of Virginia from 1992 to 2010. He has been the elected Sheriff of Virginia beach since 2010. He stated that he is proud of his record of running an effective jail system while keeping costs down.

After thanking both candidates Doug continued with the general business meeting of the civic league.

Membership -It was reported that the membership total of the civic league is 84 members, a little more than 10% of the Fairfield homes. The goal is 20%.

Meeting Rules – Mark Beers gave the Civic League Board report. The board decided to incorporate rules of etiquette for discussions to facilitate a more effective meeting so all viewpoints can be heard. People wishing to comment on a specific topic will be recognized by the president and then have the floor for 1 minute or a time determined at the start of the discussion. While that person is speaking everyone should respectfully listen. When the time limit is reached, the next person can then speak. Only when everyone has had their one chance to speak, can someone speak for a second time. If time does not permit a resolution, the item will be added to the agenda of the next meeting as old business.

Traffic - Mark Beers gave the traffic committee update. The petition and the map for the trial closure were sent back to the city for their comments on our changes. The city's map was left unchanged. The language of the petition was changed to include expected outcomes and the measurements of those outcomes. Should the city agree with those changes, then the petition will be ready for circulation in the mapped area. Anyone interested in circulating the petition in your immediate area, please contact Mark. He also pointed out that several residents

have contacted him about other traffic concerns in Fairfield. These included additional crosswalks, possible measures (traffic light timing) the city could take that would discourage cut through traffic, and a traffic light at Balfor and Providence Roads. These along with any other suggestions and ideas will be evaluated and submitted to the city for their consideration.

Website Update.-Kelly Rippard reported that the civic league webpage is up and running. All Fairfield Civic League business will be posted on this site. To follow, go to fairfieldcivicleague.org. Enter your email address on the right side of the page and click on the link to send your email address. You will receive a confirmation email.

New Business –

Two open CL positions:

1. Newsletter editor (for the Spring CV Newsletter) There is a template that makes the formatting easy.
2. Fairfield Civic League Representative to attend the monthly meetings of the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organization (VBCCO) at the Central Library. It is a great opportunity to learn what is going on across the City and share with your Fairfield neighbors. It does not require a large time commitment.

Please contact Doug McLiverty if you are interested in either position

Formation of Committees

It was suggested that the CL should form committees that can work on specific areas in order to make the CL more effective and engaging for all residents. To have neighborhood activities, as well as a newsletter that goes out to all Fairfield residents requires funding. A Ways and Means Committee and a Committee for Civic Engagement is being considered. One activity that is easy for everyone to participate now and provide a much needed service is a Food Drive to support the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia. Please see the attached flyer. Food donations can be made at 641 Rosaer Lane and at 604 Lord Dunmore Drive from November 7th through November 19th.

It was suggested that the CL host a Hot Chocolate in the Park event during the upcoming holiday season. No date was set.

The scheduled dates for Civic League Meetings held at Fairfield Elementary School at 7pm are December 4, February 5, March 5, May 6, June 4. Should you have a suggestion for a speaker, please contact Doug McLiverty.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm