

Fairfield Civic League

December 4, 2017

31 attendees

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm. President Doug McLiverty led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance then introduced Scott Bottenfield, a member of St. Andrews United Methodist Church and a spokesman for the organization, Feed Kempsville. This program helps those in our own community who need assistance. Scott informed us that there is a mistaken assumption that hunger is not a problem in Kempsville and those who live in zip codes 23464 and 23462 are affluent enough to have well stocked pantries and refrigerators. However, what Feed Kempsville has learned is that in our area alone, between 14,000 to 30,000 people experience food insecurity, the limited or uncertain access to food. Feed Kempsville currently partners with the food pantry at Ascension Church and supports the Virginia Beach Schools Beach Bags Program that provides shelf stable meals to students who might otherwise go hungry during the weekends and school breaks. The church has a community garden which also provides fresh produce to the Ascension foodbank. Feed Kempsville has started a new initiative that provides support for the debt incurred by students who are unable to afford lunches at their schools. Treasurer Betty Virok presented Scott with a \$100 check from the Fairfield Civic League to support the work of Feed Kempsville. Individual contributions of money or food items for this program can be dropped off at St. Andrews United Methodist Church (467 1047) at 717 Tucson Road, Virginia Beach, located next to the golf course on Princess Anne Road.

Doug stated that the minutes of our last meeting were posted on our webpage – [fairfieldcivicleague.org](http://fairfieldcivicleague.org).

Several people commented that our Nextdoor site is not very useful now that most of the content is advertising.

The treasurer reported that the Civic League treasury has a balance of \$1612.05 and we currently have 95 members.

Kelly Rippard provided an update of the Fairfield Neighborhood Food Drive held November 7<sup>th</sup> > 14<sup>th</sup>. Over 215 pounds of food and baby items were collected and taken to the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore. A big Thank You to our caring neighborhood!

Kelly also passed around a clipboard with opportunities to participate in various committees which can strengthen and grow our civic league. The committees included Ways and Means, Membership and Social. Also February 5<sup>th</sup> will be our next Civic League Meeting. The membership committee will be providing light refreshments and we are all encouraged to invite a neighbor to attend.

Civic League member Paul Koehl has volunteered to be our representative to the Virginia Beach Council of Civic Organizations, which meets once a month. A newsletter editor is still needed. Doug explained that Kelly has developed a template that simplifies the newsletter process considerably.

Doug reviewed the rules of order in use at our meetings so that everyone can state their concerns and present any new business.

Traffic concerns and questions expressed and *answered by Doug*:

Are there new data available now that the speed tables are in place? *The city has not yet provided us with that data.*

With respect to the Lord Dunmore traffic concern, is it a possibility of having a traffic light installed at Lord Dunmore and Fairfield Boulevard? *That idea has not been considered, thus far.*

Is it possible to have a crosswalk at Vestry and Lord Dunmore? *It appears some preliminary work was done, but not completed.*

Doug has suggested that anytime we have concerns about our streets (or other concerns) we should make the city aware of them at [VBgov.com](http://VBgov.com) under the residents tab.

Several members gave suggestions for presentations at future meetings that included updates regarding programs at the Kempsville Recreation Center and The Entrepreneurship and Business Academy at Kempsville High School.

Doug and Kelly attended a meeting with some of the residents of the 525 apartment complex. This focus group discussed what types of businesses people wanted at the intersection area and where the old bank is. Many of the

people living in the new apartments are young people who are concerned with the traffic and noise in the area. The group in general wanted places within walking distance and small, local businesses and restaurants rather than large chain stores. Businesses like bakeries, bagel/ coffee shop, spas are not available in Kempsville.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.