

The Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League Meeting of 6/16/16

The meeting was called to order by President Liberto at 7:32 pm

An introduction of the executive committee and a review of the evening's program were stated by the President.

The first guest was Joshua Dove, Director of **ReStore Operations of HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** located at 900 Tidewater Drive. He discussed volunteer opportunities with his organization; applications are on their web site for those over 18 years old. Additionally, they are a retail group. You can drive by and donate or call for a pickup of used furniture, appliances, houseware and building materials; 616-0597. They will resell to the general public and will do home improvements to help support the Habitat Mission.

Norfolk Police Officer Carrie Ford discussed the recent spike in larcenies of cars. In one month, the city received 5,000 calls total. Perpetrators are walking by and checking [from 8:00pm to 5:00am] for unlocked cars, valuables in sight and extra keys left in operator manuals which have caused a lot of the problems. Identification numbers on items [recorded] will help the police ID stolen items. Some of the stolen items are even posted on line by the name of "OFFER UP", much like CRAIGSLIST. Officer Ford said some of the suspects have been caught on camera. The police ask us to set up time so it will be posted with the picture.

ODU Police Officer SGT. Medel stated their patrols will go from 49th St. north to Magnolia Av. They also have concerns of property theft and reiterated the importance of ID numbers on property. Both NPD and ODU stated that putting an incident on NEXT DOOR is not official and does not constitute a police report. Be sure to file a police report.

Norfolk [Public Works] Traffic Division's Rhonda spoke of the speed sign that had been placed on Jamestown Crescent and now is for south bound traffic on Colley Avenue and proposed the purchase of a sign for us to have, to rotate through various streets of our neighborhood. The city only has 1 sign per voting ward, which limits the use over time in the Larchmont/Edgewater area. The signs show the vehicle speed and record data. Mr. Stevenson said it lowers speed by an average of 5 mph per vehicles. The cost of one is \$3,500 to \$4,000. By a vote of 20-0 the C/L will look in to the procurement.

ODU concerns and opportunities

Present from ODU were: Dean of Students Don Stransberry,

Assistant V/P for Community Engagement Karen Meier, **ODU Police Chief** Rhonda Harris

Mr. Stransberry addressed off campus living of the students. Code violations for ODU and the City of Norfolk differ. Absentee land lords present problems with trash, grass cutting and home maintenance. Vehicles' parking in yards on the lawn is against City Code. Violators will be served a notice. If code violations continue the City Attorney's office then gets involved. Karen Meier discussed the 'ready to rent' program, said responsible land lords will have their rentals on a "ready to rent" list for off campus living. Her department also looks into partnering with neighborhoods like LARCHMONT-EDGEWATER and LAMBERT'S POINT Civic Leagues.

Police Chief Harris spoke about an APP on cell phones that will report crime on campus. Crime has been reduced by 50 percent. Party registration is looking to be implemented. Organized parties like Fraternity / Sorority or student parties will register for off-campus parties. The form will have the date of, start, end, and estimated attendance and if the event will have alcohol. The ODU police will contact the host before, during and after the event.

The Parking Committee chairperson Penny Wile, and members Ed and Janis Weisberg and Chuck Davis, presented their proposed changes to city parking regulations. These proposed changes, criteria for blocks to establish parking restrictions, and a link to a map showing the current boundaries of Zones 4 and 5 of the Residential Parking Program (RPP) were published in the June Newsletter and posted on the civic league's website for review prior to the meeting: <http://larchmontedgewater.org/neighborhood-parking-committee-proposes-changes-in-regulations-to-city/>. John Stevenson, Senior Transportation Program Manager, fielded several questions from those present on the RPP and related parking concerns.

Zones 4 and 5 extend from ODU as far north as Buckingham Avenue and cover areas on both sides of Hampton Blvd. Only residents of a block within these boundaries can request to establish permit parking, and the residents of 45 blocks within this area have chosen to participate in the program. There are currently 9 different parking regulations established within these blocks, which has made enforcement extremely difficult. Only City Council can change the RPP after the city conducts a parking survey. The RPP zone does not constitute specific limits, this is done by block or street specificity. For this to happen, 75 percent of the block households must agree; but having the zone makes it easier to establish those specifics.

The committee presented the following and a vote was taken:

1. Combine Zones 4 and 5 and extend the RPP boundary north to Magnolia Avenue on both sides of Hampton Blvd. to increase the number of blocks eligible to participate in the RPP. The vote was 13 **YES**, 2 no.
2. Adopt a "1 hour at all times" parking regulation within the current and new extended zone. The vote was 5 yes, 11 **NO**.
3. Strict enforcement, a 24-hour direct contact number for parking information and infraction enforcement, and establishment of an online portal to purchase parking decals and visitor passes were combined in the third vote. This was passed 16-0 **in favor**.
4. The Department of Streets determines if any streets within the zone require single side of street parking to enable emergency and city vehicle access. 15 **YES**, 2 no.

The Parking Committee needs other recommendations by September for times established for RPP.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.