GNL Membership Meeting  
July 18, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Emily Birknes, Karen Reynes, Nat McCormick, George Kello, Jean Webster, Jeremy McGee and Paige Rose

Board Members Absent: Mike Spencer, Larry Brett, Sarah Petroske, Catherine Kilduff and Bob Kelly.

Safety Report: Officer Siegel (CRO Perez out of town)

- Officer Siegel’s report reflected entire Ghent stats, not solely within GNL boundaries
- 9 larcenies from auto’s; unlocked car doors were prevalent.
- 1 vehicle theft, car doors unlocked. NPD located auto within 2 hours
- 1 commercial robbery / 7 -11 @ 4 a.m. , 21st street adjacent Gayle’s Wigs
- Speeding complaints received on Colley Avenue
- Vehicle larcenies generally occur between 2am and 4:45 am. Lock car doors!
- NPD rapid response recognized with prompt apprehension of 2 young men checking car doors on Fairfax Avenue. Individuals were found with a crowbar. Residents collaborated with NPD and each other.

Project Review: Nat McCormick

- Sacred Heart fencing project: Reviewed and recommended support largely due to safety issue of an exposed pipe.
- “Residences at Redgate”, 828 - 840 Redgate: After an initial review, applicants returned with updated renderings based on comments from the prior Project Review Committee meeting. Though many changes had been made, additional suggestions to improve appropriateness and aesthetics were forwarded for ARB’s consideration.
- Signage: Work continued to define appropriate guidelines for Historic District signage (apartment units, etc.) that were not clearly addressed with current City commercial signage regulations. GNL resident and business owner, Rick Yarow, created a template that was endorsed by the GNL Project review committee for ARB consideration.

Community Improvement: Paige Rose

Public Works: (Michele Williams, City of Norfolk):

- Replacement of about 50 feet of pipe and a storm drain to occur near 536
Redgate & Blow St. Work should commence approximately July 15\textsuperscript{th}. The sidewalk will be closed during the week that work is underway.

Ghent Neglected Properties:
- 820 Graydon added per residential concerns. Yard overgrown, ivy growing up front side of home, paint, etc. Inspectors will make July site visit for yard and home exterior added to case (opened July 7\textsuperscript{th})
- Neglected properties updates discussed during Ghent Task Force. Requested to obtain that monthly report to avoid duplicate requests.

Trees:
- Citizen requests received for pruning , near HT and along Colonial Ave..

Stop Sign study for Boissevain and Stockley Gardens:
- Principal contacts at Christ and St. Luke’s Church are away until September. John Stevenson, City of Norfolk, has been informed of timetable.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION: “Special Service District”**

**City of Norfolk, Mr. Greg Patrick, Budget Director**

- In summary, a SSD (Special Service District) would require the majority of residents in specified area to agree to an increased tax that would fund neighborhood improvements: flood mitigation, etc.
- SSD projects would commence and then be subsequently paid with SSD tax revenue.
- SSDs would provide an extra tool in “City toolkit” to address flood mitigation
- SSDs are already implemented in Downtown Freemason (Business Improvement District) and Virginia Beach (dredging project)
- **See attached City of Norfolk documents for additional information: “SSD Process Presentation, SSD Process Map and SSD Policy for Handout”**.
- Audience discussion / concern focused on:
  - SSD boundaries
  - Cost/ Benefit to residences further away from improvement site
  - Improvements should be shouldered via existing Stormwater bills

Due to the summer holiday, GNL will not meet in August.
The next GNL Membership Meeting will be held September 19th