I. Call to order and introductions

Vice President Karen Reynes called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Catherine Kilduff recorded minutes. After welcoming the membership, those in attendance introduced themselves.

Board members present: JR Montalvo, Karen Reynes, Catherine Kilduff, Nat McCormick, George Kello, Emily Birknes, Dan Ross-Li

Absent: Tyler Sherwin, Sarah Petroske, Paige Rose

Special Guest: Mayor Alexander, Mayor of the City of Norfolk.

II. Safety Report – Community Resources Officer (CRO) Samantha Perez

Officer Perez reviewed the crime statistics; a question was asked.

With the holidays coming up:

- Please be sure not to leave keys in cars because there is an uptick of stolen vehicles using keys in the car (including keys to your other cars).
- Please take in your neighbors’ packages.
- Police presence will be increased on Colley Ave. corridor.
- Harbor Half-marathon is going through Ghent this Saturday.

III. Guest Speakers

Mayor Alexander:

- **Crime** is at a 22-year low. City is returning to community policing.

- **School accreditation.** Norfolk can do better. School board has authority to govern the schools; Council decides the funding. We are going to build a CTE school to create students that will get high-paying jobs.

- **Governance.** In the past years, lots of public/private partnership required borrowing money (light rail, courthouse, five schools, Nauticus, cruise terminal, The Main). We borrowed $1 billion. This requires $75 million per year to service that debt. During the recession, we got less money from the state. Debt is coming due, revenue has lagged
behind expenditures. We are now working with GoVirginia to grow the economy. High-paying jobs we are looking at include cyber security, small satellites, unmanned systems, data analytics, big data, data and shipbuilding. Those jobs require a high school diploma and can pay $80,000. Ultra-speed internet cable can go along the light rail pathway.

- **Transportation.** Norfolk has the most multi-modal forms of transportation: Amtrak, cruise-ship terminal, bike lanes, pedestrian paths, the port, airport, the light rail. We are going to focus on connections to the light rail.

- **Arts and culture.** We have many cultural aspects to the City of Norfolk.

Questions were asked about the airport connections; a bus service app; Norfolk Southern contract requiring a presence until 2026; the connector pipeline – the City hired two independent consultants who will report to the city on Nov. 20.

**David Byrd, Virginia Stage Company**

- 40th Anniversary Season

- Produce 6-8 plays per season

- In addition, local projects like “Our Town 757,” which collected stories of residents that are no longer with us. Visit our website and listen to the stories.

**Mr. Sherman, Freemason Neighborhood League**

- Fire in 2017; City declared it an emergency in August 2018 and ordered it to be demolished.

- Advice to neighborhood leagues: Request all communications regarding building code violations and all notices. Argue with building code officials when you have the opportunity.

**Tim Faulkner, Breeden Project**

- 533 Front St. (next door to the recently renovated Roebuck Bldg.)

- 252 apartments, on-site parking wrapped by the apartments. The city requires a 2-to-1 parking requirement. They got a waiver for a 1.5-to-1 parking.

- Rip rap waterfront, similar to Plum Park. They are very interested in resiliency. Apartments are 18 feet up; parking deck is 8 feet above the high tide line. Club house is 14 feet up.
IV. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Nat McCormick gave a project review. Wednesday, Dec. 5, is the next ARB meeting at The Hague School.

Catherine Kilduff gave a brief update on flooding and possible funding sources for resilience measures (federal, industry, and foundations).

Neighborhood League holiday party is December 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.