

Larchmont Edgewater Civic League Meeting Minutes  
February 21, 2019

- I. Call to order. Civic League President Nate Kinnison called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. Reports of standing committees and neighborhood events.
  - a. Neighborhood watch. Officer Pate from ODU reported on various crimes in the ODU area. She discussed several incidents where ODU students were hit by vehicles while walking on crosswalks or riding on bikes. No fatalities thankfully. There are now countdown timers for pedestrians at numerous intersections around the university.
  - b. Officer Brett Rauzi is our new (interim) CRO. He reported on the burglary in the 1100 block of Jamestown Crescent and a stolen auto on Lexan (Keys were in the car. Car was recovered later that day in the Lafayette/Tidewater Drive area.) Please report crimes – posting something like this on NextDoor does not equate to reporting it to the Norfolk PD! Remember, if you know that someone tried to access/steal from/steal your vehicle, please report it to the non-emergency number and give them the report over the phone. On the other hand, if you see a crime in progress, call 911!
  - c. Treasurer's report. Audit forthcoming.
  - d. Codes enforcement. Nothing to report.
  - e. Marketing and Web. No date yet for our fall Oyster Roast, but we will be able to set date in June (based on St. Patrick's guidelines).
    - i. Looking for a printer for the newsletter so if anyone has suggestions, please let Nate know.
- III. Presentations/New Business/Announcements & Updates
  - a. Recap on Hampton Blvd. Survey went out to neighborhood. 551 responses; 85% of respondents did not want bike lanes on Hampton Blvd and did not want Hampton Blvd reduced to two lanes, from the current three. There will be protected green arrows added (bridge to 38<sup>th</sup> street); one thing that could not be done: the lanes will not be widened. Lanes are 10.5' wide. During school hours, speed limit is 15 mph at the curve around Bolling and Hampton. Hampton Blvd. will be resurfaced this summer, from bridge to 38<sup>th</sup> street. Port information: Yard space at the port is being increased to handle an additional 400,000 containers. Plan is to reroute most of the trains that cross Hampton Blvd. to the new *Norfolk International Terminals* North Gate connector (NIT North Gate: <http://www.portofvirginia.com/facilities/norfolk-international-terminals-nit/maps-directions/>)
  - b. LT. Michael Lovely, NPD Homeland Security Division. LT Lovely described the capacity and responsibilities of the NPD's Traffic Unit. This unit handles all traffic violations, fatalities, targeted traffic enforcement at high volume areas, such as Hampton Blvd. They have two full time motor carrier officers/inspectors – these officers can inspect commercial motor vehicles. Motorcycle officers are assigned to the traffic unit, as are all escort operations, special events planning (Harbor Fest, running events) as well as school crossing guards. Full staffing for this unit is 16 officers, with three shifts that must be covered. (The unit is not currently fully staffed). They partner with the precincts, ODU-PD, and the Port Police. The lieutenant noted that they are short by about 20-25 crossing guards. The Hampton Blvd. task force tried to take a holistic view of the Hampton Boulevard problem, even though it was triggered by the overturned truck at Bolling/Hampton. (The driver was intoxicated; the load wasn't properly secured) The city hired a data scientist to analyze the number/types of violations. The number of accidents actually caused by trucks is quite low. The task force's focus was Enforcement/Education/Engineering. Note: Much of the revenues from traffic fines goes to the city treasury, not to the Police Department. Council members Courtney Doyle and Andria McClellan recommended additional enforcement, with paid overtime, on Hampton Blvd. Norfolk PD does get a grant to do some additional enforcement on Hampton Blvd. Question

about car break-ins in Larchmont/Edgewater. Comment: Car larcenies are generally a juvenile crime. There are not enough officers to thoroughly cover the neighborhoods. Question: How can we advocate for more police? Answer: Civic league presence, and civic presence at City Council meetings, work! What about pedestrian bridges over Hampton Blvd? Discussed by the task force, but very expensive. What about a crosswalk over Bolling? Very hard to justify grant funding when they don't connect one physical institution to another physical institution, i.e. hotel to conference center. The North Gate on Hampton Blvd is definitely taking more traffic to the port now and has resulted in lower truck traffic crossing to the port at the South Gate.

- c. Proposal for addition of stop sign at Buckingham and Upper Brandon. Brent Garrett spoke in favor of this proposal. Many small children in this part of the neighborhood! They are proposing a 4-way stop at this intersection, instead of the current *Yield* sign. (There is a stop sign at Carillo and Buckingham. Suggestion made to consider a 4-way stop sign here as well; Buckingham should not be an easy "cut-through" street!) Proposal for a 4-way stop sign at Buckingham and Upper Brandon moved and seconded. Motion passed. Additional motion for a 4-way stop sign at Carillo and Buckingham made. Seconded and passed. Concern about need for a stop sign on Carroll and Magnolia (a three-way stop). There is currently a *Yield* sign at that intersection. All of the neighbors are in favor. Moved: Three-way stop sign at the intersection of Carroll and Magnolia. Motion seconded and passed.
- d. Milan Station Replacement Post Office updates. Congressman Scott's February 15 letter shown and discussed. There is hope for a replacement post office!
- e. New business: Resident raised strong objections to the advertising packets that are thrown in our front yards. Nuisance! How can we stop this? Nate will take for action.
- f. Next Meeting: April 18<sup>th</sup>

IV. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Nicula, Secretary