

Estabrook/Coleman Place civic League General Meeting – Sept. 21, 2021

President Carolyn Foca opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m with Fred Gallup leading the Pledge of Allegiance and Avis McCann led the prayer. Guests introduced themselves to the membership. The minutes of the last meeting were available on the back table, there were no comments from the members. There were 31 people in attendance at the meeting.

Our Community Resource Officer, Officer Trojhan, went over each incident that occurred of the stats for the last month. The police department has lost some officers since COVID started. Speeding has been an ongoing issue in our neighborhoods. Comments and concerns were taken by Officer Trojhan.

Norfolk City Councilwoman Mamie Johnson from Ward 3 spoke. She urged people to send their neighborhood concerns to her and city council. She is in the process to taking ten community tours of her ward and has finished six of them. She held a town hall meeting for Ward 3 and 4. Talked of various ways to slow speeding down. She encouraged everyone to report incidents to Norfolk Cares and copy it to her and Delk Koolman with the concerns so they can be aware of the problem areas of concern. Mamie's email address is: mamie.johnson@norfolk.gov and her phone number is: 757-448-8673.

Tonight's speakers were: **Jonathan Coffee** and **Andrew Knezovich**, two new business owners in our community. Mr. Coffee's business is a **DJ Event Center** located at 2432 Ingleside Rd. for high school and college students for them to learn how to become a certified disc jockey for a variety of events. Scholarships are available. His business has not opened yet. Mr. Knezovich's business is called **My Commissary Kitchen** that is located at 3351 Chesapeake Boulevard. His business is not a restaurant, it caters to caterers and food trucks. His small business gives them access to code-certified commercial kitchen space to prepare their food for the day. A number of small businesses are already using the fully equipped space. He is in the process of getting a second location in the neighborhood that is 14,000 sq. ft. He has 70 new business members working from his kitchen. His company is the first company providing this service in Norfolk. Both businesses are in the process of getting a zoning change from Norfolk. The civic league will provide a letter to the city of Norfolk for change of zoning Conditional Use of approval for both businesses. Questions were asked.

Neighborhood Development Specialist Delk Koolman has been working hard during the COVID virus to provide city information to us in emails. He provides various resources to help people out with information. Two events coming up: Sat. Oct. 3rd – Arbor Day Event from 10am-2pm at 3500 Granby St. Lafayette Park. Groundbreaking Ceremony Sat., Oct. 23rd from 11-2pm at the future Five Points City Park. Food trucks, etc.

Dr. Tatum, Principal from Coleman Place Elem. spoke briefly. She mentioned Sherwood Forest Elem has a new principal that comes from Lindenwood Elem. Dr. Tatum is collecting 8 oz. water bottles and in need of youth masks for her school.

Fred Gallup is coordinating the Fill A Bag & Feed A Family project for both elementary schools. More info will be in the next newsletter. He is hoping we can collect more than the 30 bags that was collected for the last food drive for Thanksgiving.

50/50 Drawing of \$23 was won by Mr. Ben Thompson, he gave his half of the winnings back to the civic league, except for the "good luck" \$2 bill that was in the pot.

Several people made announcements.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Janis Carney, Secretary