

Downtown Norfolk Civic League

September 19, 2011

Mission Statement:

To be a collective voice of the residents, dedicated to the quality of life issues unique to Downtown Norfolk.

I. Welcome

- DNCL quarterly social was held at Byte in the Wells Fargo Center.
- Matt, the owner, moved from Virginia Beach to open the business.
- The restaurant offers clean American food made from scratch.
- Can accommodate up to 200 at private functions and does corporate catering.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner are offered 7 days a week.

II. Introductions

III. Financial Report – Peter Forte

- The secretary reported a balance of \$1,464.75 with 98 memberships (53 residents and 45 businesses).

IV. P.A.C.E. Report – Officer Charlie Ball and Lt. Squires

- YTD statistics are down 47 reports from last year this time.
- One rape attempted in the Harbor Park parking lot ... victim was followed from public housing. An arrest has been made.
- Robbery to an individual reported in the 100 block of E. Charlotte St. Three minors assaulted an individual and took \$400 in cash.
- Aggravated assault by a male stabbing his girlfriend while driving on Brambleton Ave.
- There were eight larcenies from autos reported ... two in parking garages.
- One stolen vehicles were reported from the YMCA.
- Lt. Squires reported that an eye is being kept on the homeless population using light rail. Call the NPD if you see any suspicious activity.

V. Economic Development – Chuck Rigney

- N/A.

VI. Guest Speaker – John Rhamstine with Seven Venues.

- John has been with the city since 1989 and previously worked with the Seattle Sonics for eight years.
- His job is to bring events to the city and to manage city entertainment properties.
- Seven Venues is a revenue generator, bringing tax flow to the city.
- This department works with downtown businesses to bring events that will create profits for businesses.

- The Tides have been at Harbor Park for 20 years.
- The Admirals started in 1989 and are a Tampa Bay affiliate.
- The Virginia Stage Company and the Virginia Opera have long term agreements with the city.
- The reputation of downtown in 1989 was that Norfolk was unsafe ... that perception has been turned around.
- The Illumination Parade will have a different route due to the combination of large floats and high voltage light rail lines.
- The inaugural Freedom Marathon will be held on Veterans Day weekend.
- There is a public arts program that has provided artwork at each light rail station.
- There is a constant flow of contracts to manage.
- The Attucks Theatre has a Discovery series underway.
- There is a renovation plan for the Scope Plaza area to make it more attractive and inviting.
- Public skating at the MacArthur Center will be continued.
- The Norfolk Sharks will open indoor soccer on November 11.
- October 07 is the first Admirals game of the season.
- Two pairs of tickets to the musical Rain were donated by Seven Venues.

VII. Old Business

- N/A

VIII. New Business

- N/A

IX. Open Discussion

- N/A

X. Adjourn

Please join us for the next DNCL meeting on Monday, October 17, 2011.