



CIVIC LEAGUE
For New Castle County

Informed Citizens for Sound County Growth
P.O. Box 11523 - Wilmington, DE 19850

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OCTOBER
2007

COUNTY COMMENTS

CIVIC LEAGUE FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY
Informed Citizens for Sound County Growth

Tuesday, October 16, 2007
MEETING

7:00 PM at the Paul Sweeney Public Safety Building
3601 N. duPont Hwy
(Rte 13 South of DMV, North of Gracelawn Cemetery)

AGENDA

DISCUSSION: New Castle County Housing Ordinance
Draft -- Ch 40 -- Sign Regulation
Wilmapco Update
CL for NCC -- Legislative Agenda

**Great new place beckons you
to the October 16 meeting**

Convenient location, parking near front door, state-of-the-art meeting room, and a rewarding program await you at our October 16 meeting.

This will be the Civic League's second meeting in New Castle County's brand new public safety building on Route 13, just south of center city. It is with enthusiasm from our first meeting there last month that this special invitation is extended.

The eco-friendly building by noted local architects Tevebaugh & Associates is in itself worth visiting, even though only the first floor lobby and community meeting room can be visited at present. Formal dedication of the impressive structure has yet to be announced. What can be enjoyed immediately are its many energy conserving features including automatic use-sensitive lighting and pollution-free geothermal heating and air conditioning.

In the community meeting room you'll enjoy comfortable seating where special attention has been paid to sound quality to assure the clarity of both the speaker and questions by attendees.

The central location of this new facility makes it quick and easy to reach from all parts of New Castle County. Be among the first to check it out and be prepared to tell others about the beautiful building and the important Civic League programs now being presented there.

STATEMENT
OF
PRINCIPLE

- ◆ Monitor and selectively evaluate government actions including laws, regulations and policy.
- ◆ Provide appropriate forums for informing as well as soliciting input from the public.
- ◆ Establish positions based on responsible studies and consistent with the aims and purpose of the organization.
- ◆ Advocate these positions.

Founded in 1962, the Civic League is non-profit volunteer organization, which studies and illuminates County and State government actions concerning comprehensive developments and the quality of life and is a vocal advocate of relevant positions.

County Comments is the official publication of the Civic League for New Castle County.

Dan Bockover,
President

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Wilmington, DE 19850
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OCTOBER MEETING
Tuesday, October 16th 7:00p.m.

NOVEMBER MEETING
Tuesday, November 27. th 7:00p.m.
(Date change from November 20th)

Keep Your County Comments Coming

Renew your Membership Now
www.CivicLeagueForNCC.Org

Affordable Housing Revisions to the UDC

Dear all;

As you may recall, the recently adopted Comprehensive Development Plan recommends a broad range of strategies for improving the diversity and quality of housing in New Castle County. For more specifics, see pages 80-88 in the Plan and Strategies 2, 4, 5, 6, and 11 on page 88.

In an effort to encourage public dialogue on Unified Development Code (UDC) amendments and rezoning to provide incentives to develop more affordable housing, Councilman Hollins and the Department of Land Use are holding a public meeting. The meeting will be at:

7 pm on Thursday, October 11, 2007
Gilliam Building Public Meeting Room
77 Reads Way, New Castle.

This meeting will also be advertised in this Saturday's News Journal legal advertisement and posted on our website.

In preparation for the meeting, we will distribute a draft ordinance for inclusionary housing and a resolution asking the Department to identify properties that would be suitable for rezoning to ST. The ordinance is having edits made to it right now and will be sent to all of you by Tuesday. Councilman Hollins and we are interested in receiving comments and suggestions before introducing an ordinance on October 23rd.

Once an ordinance is introduced there will be further opportunity to discuss it and propose revisions formally through the Planning Board and County Council Hearing process. The public notice requirements will place this ordinance on the December 4 Planning Board hearing with it coming back to Council for action in January.

If anyone would like a more informal conversation, Councilman Hollins and I would be more than happy to engage in discussion anytime. Thank you all for your understanding of the tight timeline this week and for engaging in the process of improving the ordinance over the next few months. We look forward to working with all of you. Please forward this to anyone else you think may be interested. Thank you.

Best regards,
Charlie

Charles L. Baker
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Pandemic Influenza Preparedness

Delaware recently held a summit on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness. U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona and Alex Azar, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services spoke to the gathering in Dover. David Mitchell, DE Homeland Security Secretary and Dr. Jaime Rivera of the DE Division of Public Health shared our state's preparedness for such a health emergency.

My goal in this article is to share pertinent points I picked up at this event. The most important point is that grassroots citizens like you and me **MUST DO OUR PART** in educating our community on being prepared. Recall what you saw on television and read about in the paper and magazines to push yourself into action on the material you will read below. Don't wait. Get ready now.

Citizen preparedness makes sense whether it's a house fire, natural disaster, pandemic flu or a terrorist attack. Recommended supplies to include in a basic kit for emergencies include: water: one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation; food: a three day supply of non-perishable food; battery-powered radio and extra batteries; flashlight and extra batteries; first aid kit; whistle; filter mask or cotton t-shirt to filter the air; moist towelettes for sanitation; wrench or pliers to turn off utilities; manual can opener for food; plastic sheeting and duct tape for shelter-in-place; garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation; unique family needs, such as prescriptions, infant formula, important documents.

Consider a family communications plan where each one contacts the same out of town person in the event of an emergency. Go to www.ready.gov to learn more or call 1 800 BE-READY for a free brochure.

We have a Citizen Corps Council in our state ready to speak at a civic group meeting to relay our local activities in this effort. Contact Bob George in Smyrna at 302 836-1656 or r.j.george@comcast.net for ways to be involved in this important effort.

A Medical Reserve Corps at Christiana Care Hospital meets monthly, participates in preparedness drills and works to recruit more volunteers in the allied health fields. Contact Steve Remillard at Sremillard@christianacare.org for more information.

Our Division of Public Health is stockpiling equipment, antivirals, equipping incident response teams and educating the public about readiness for health emergencies such as an outbreak of avian flu.

Please do your part in contacting speakers, visiting web sites and reading brochures on these important public safety measures. Dr. Jaime Rivera of DPH said, "It's not a matter of if we are going to have another pandemic in our lifetime, it's a matter of when."

Let's be **THE FIRST STATE** of PREPAREDNESS! Thank you for this opportunity to share with you a topic of interest and concern. Go to www.pandemicflu.gov for a Faith-Based and Community Organizations Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Checklist.

By Pam Maier,
Delaware State Representative