

Countryside Homes Association Monthly Meeting Minutes for 8/16/07, 7:00pm CST
Meeting took place at Minsky's on Main.

Those in attendance from HOA:

Terry Rodeghier
Bill Robertson
Mario Vasquez
Mary Kay Morrow
Kevin Vaughan
Joe Grego
Darryl Hawkins
Concerned Neighbors

7:05pm Meeting started with introduction of Captain Marckxx of KCPD

Captain Marckxx started by introducing himself to the group. Captain Marckxx was asked to appear in response to a perceived spike in crime in the neighborhood and generously made himself available for both a presentation regarding the criminal activity taking place as well as engaging in a lengthy Q&A from the neighbors. He stayed until all questions were answered.

Highlights of Captain Marckxx presentation included the following:

1. Definition of terms – robbery, burglary, stealing, theft, assault, home invasion, trespassing, etc...
2. Description of actions taken by KCPD – They had increased patrols, and detained and questioned suspicious pedestrians and suspicious drivers during a two week period. Typical patrol includes 12 -16 cars per night, and following the numerous requests and reports of crime a greater number of cars were allocated to our area. The result was several arrests of individuals for various violations including parole violations, possession of illegal weapons, etc... It's not clear however if any of those arrested were the suspects involved in the recent crime wave. It is clear though that the increased police activity has curtailed most of the crime activity.
3. Response Time – Average response time is 8 minutes on calls to 911 emergency.
4. KCPD contact numbers – Non Emergency # 234-5530, Emergency # 234-5111.

Captain Marckxx provides us with guidelines for safer living.

First, most of the criminal activity takes place between the hours of 9pm – 1am. It's important to use common sense to avoid becoming a victim of crime. Actions that individuals can take include the following: Leave exterior lights on, lock doors and windows, draw blinds, close curtains, do not leave personal belongings in view. Walk your property in the evening making sure that from outside the home, nothing can be seen inside the home. Close garages. Lock vehicles. Keep garage door openers out of sight for vehicles not garage kept. And most important, **be observant and diligent.**

Budget Reserve – Kevin provided us with an update on the HOA account balance, knowing that it's inflated right now having just collected annual dues.

HOA Survey Results – Terry provided us with an update of the survey that had been delivered to the residents recently. We've received approximately 150 surveys returned with varying degrees of information provided by the residents. Our goal has been to obtain feedback in regards to desired services and willingness to increase dues to cover costs associated with additional services. We hope have final consensus by 9/11 meeting. Additionally, we have received updated contact information from a large number of respondents, allowing us to update our database and add to the “**voice call list**”. Our goal here is to create a phone list enabling us to reach most or all of our residents with pertinent information simply by making one call.

Brookside Monument Repairs – Jim Kraus has been in contact with Murasky in regards to the repair of the monument at 52nd Street & Brookside Blvd. We're waiting for his bid. As a reminder, we've agreed to allocate a total of \$5,000 to this venture with up to \$2,500 being dedicated to the restoration and repair of the monument and another \$2,500 being allocated to landscaping.

Historic Homes Plaques – Mary Kay provided us with the template for homes on the National Historic registry. These will be made available for purchase. Contact Mary Kay for details.

Countryside Picnic 9/15– Terry provided info regarding the picnic. The details are set, including music, food, drink, cooks, activities, etc. We're still waiting to see if there will be representatives from KC's finest and KCPD. Can anyone help solicit these folks? Volunteers are needed for set up of tables and chairs, porto-potties, and clean up. I (Joe G) have agreed to pick up the items from Costco and keep refrigerated until the picnic. Please remember to bring coolers, and recycling bins if you are able.

Discussion regarding 100 Year Celebration taking place in 2008

As a group we've agreed on the logo for this celebration and we've agreed to order t-shirts to be made available to the neighbors for purchase and also to include in welcome kits for new neighbors.

9:00pm – Meeting Adjourned

NEXT MEETING 9/11/07, Same Time, Same Place