

Wynnewood North Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2009

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm Officers present were Joseph Hernandez, Dwayne Privott, Dean Rose, Lance Ivy, Aja Olson, Pam Westerheide, and Richard London. Not present were Cindy Kirk and John Sarlay. Joseph explained that the format of the meeting will be somewhat non-traditional.

II. Department Reports

- A. **A. Social – Aja Olson** - Aja recapped previous social events from 2009, announcing the Fall Wander which will be held on Saturday October 24th. She passed out event location flyers to those who had signed up. Joseph explained the purpose of the Wander events as a fund raiser for the neighborhood. The homes for the Wander were announced, Kyle and Rexine Connor, Sergio (?) and Bruce(?) Ron (?). The starting time will be 6pm. Volunteers were solicited for hosting the neighborhood Christmas Party. Janice Coffee and Terri Thomas volunteered. On Friday December 11th will be the holiday light judging contest.
- B. **Beautification – Lance Ivy.** Lance announce the Yards of the month winners for the past three months, Jeff Sappenfield, Michael Cooper and Lydia Velasquez. He also thanked all who participated in the Fall cleanup and recognized the neighbors that participated in the event. This cleanup's focus was to help prepare for the OOCCL Fall Home Tour. The fall fling was hosted by Dwayne and Lance at 520 Monssen Drive.
- C. **Treasurer – Richard London.** Richard gave the Treasurers report and stated that the overall ending balance of the treasury was \$8762.36,. The Security fund contains \$2637.26 of which there was a grant of \$2500 . Lynn Sulander made a motion and Doug Norton seconded the approval of the treasurers report as written. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. **Communications – Tom Claeys** explained the role of the office, confirmed that residents received their newsletters. He thanked the block captains for their role and that there is a meeting on Nov 7 for block captains. Block captains are needed for Monssen and Bizerte. He asked for donations for Potluck items for the block captains party. He then asked new neighbors to introduce themselves. There were two new neighborhoods Paul Carillo and Christy (something) who stood and introduced themselves.
- E. **Vice President – Dwayne** spoke about National Night Out and thanked Andy Schell, Aja Olson and Pam Westerheide for their roles in pulling off a well attended National Night Out Event. Joseph thanked Dwayne for filling in during his absence and then talked about the city cutbacks in maintenance on things like potholes and mowing. Joseph also announced that the neighborhood board had

decided to recognize Sandy McFeely for all of her efforts in cleaning up the neighborhood.

- F. **Crime Watch** – Pam acknowledged the contribution of Jeff Sappenfield in scheduling the VIP patrols of the neighborhood. She thanked all VIPS for their the participation and the specific contribution of Lynn Sulander as an organizer of the VIP training classes. She encouraged the attendees to be involved in the training for VIP and the VIP program in general. Nancy Skinner has recognized WNNA for its efforts with VIP. The next class will be scheduled when there are enough interested neighbors for a session. Pam noted that the VIP patrol is going well and has met with other neighborhood association directors to discuss the success of the VIP program. She urged the neighbors to “do your best to get involved because it really adds to our strength as a neighborhood.” Joseph encouraged participation as well. Lynne Sulander encouraged people to clean their alleyways to make way for the patrols. Doug Norton encouraged all neighbors to put their house numbers on their alley fence to assist with patrols. Crime stats have been very low with the only notable offense in the past six weeks, a stolen air conditioning unit on Monssen Drive. Anne will have Jeff Sappenfield collect the availability of hours for unscheduled patrols and partners for those occasions when there is free time and people want to patrol. A neighbor suggested having a contractor go through the neighborhood and paint house numbers on the fences. Lynn Sulander suggested developing a pet registry. No motions or votes took place on these items.

Joseph announced that the Omni-watch contract expired in December 2007 and we are continuing the contract on a month to month basis. He discussed the challenge of the maintenance and coordination of servicing the cameras. The contract is to monitor 9 to 11 cameras. Omni-watch met with the board in January-February and has not fulfilled promises made at that time. Omni-watch has serviced cameras at a cost of \$400 and missed appointments for service. Our annual fee for the monitoring or near \$3,000 per year. On average Wanders bring in an income of \$1200 per Wander. Therefore, the Wanders cannot pay for the monitoring. The board did some analysis on the effectiveness of the camera surveillance and found no instances of crimes solved and many instances where the majority of cameras do not work. One of the elements of the original proposal was wireless connectivity which never panned out in our neighborhood. Other camera monitoring and service companies were investigated but none were deemed to be a viable option after scrutiny by the Board.

Joseph explained that camera images online are not a high enough quality to reveal details that would allow prosecution. He compared crime three years ago to crime today and noted improved crime statistics and attributed the difference, not to the cameras, but to the VIP program. Joseph encouraged the membership to believed that the VIP program was the causal agent for the reduction in crime. Terry Thomas suggested cutting our losses and severing ties with Omni-watch. Dwayne Privott suggested replacing the signs that say you “are being monitored” with signs that say you “may be monitored”. Doug Norton suggest pursuing legal recourse but no

motion was made. Mary Ann Jenkins suggested paying an off duty police officer patrol the neighborhood. Lance Ivy explained how cost prohibitive this option is.

Jimmy Turner made a motion to discontinue our maintenance contract and monitoring service with Omni-watch. Mary Ann Jenkins was the second. The motion carried unanimously.

Joseph talked about the next meeting being our elections meeting. He encouraged involvement by the group in the neighborhood board. Location for next years meeting was suggested to continue at the Top of Oak Cliff. At the end of the meeting Bruce and Art came in as new neighbors and were introduced.

G. Publications – John Sarlay was not present .

H. New Business –

- a. Silver Poteet announced that she was not happy with the numerous Oak Cliff papers piling up in neighbors' driveways. She added that she thought it was important to know your neighbors usual going and coming times so as not to be alarmed by their leaving at odd times.
- b. Joseph made a plea for wander attendance and ideas for fundraisers.

I. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm