



# Woodlea Melrose Neighborhood Association

## Meeting Minutes

### WMNA General Meeting and Crime Summit

Tuesday, April 7, 7:00 pm, Seventh Day Adventist Church, 777 W Montecito Ave

Attendees: 16

### Crime Report

#### General Discussion

Erich introduced Officer Aron Stevens, our local Community Action Officer. Officer Stevens shared crime stats for the last year. He told us that every stat is down from last April but that residential burglary is still biggest concern. Some stats Officer Stevens gave us - last crime summit he reported 50 burglary calls, most of those were apartment related, but 19 were residential. This year we are down to 35 burglary calls - 11 of those, residential. Last summit he reported over 200 calls regarding "suspicious people/activity", this past year the calls went down to 179. As most of you know our police force has been cut in size and their territory has spread even further. Officer Stevens reminded us that the more calls we make the stronger police presence we will have in our neighborhood. SEE, REPORT, PREVENT. If neighbors SEE suspicious activity, they are encouraged to REPORT it by calling the Crime Stop number (602-262-6151). One way to PREVENT crime is to continue a recent trend observed in the neighborhood: spending more time in our front yards. That and being friendly to people who seem to be "out of place" can act as a deterrent. Officer Aaron also told us of the Phoenix Bike Registration Program - bikers who register get an identification sticker to place on their bike in a visible area. Officers enter the registrant's information and a photo of the bike into an electronic database. They can access the database from squad vehicles so they can look out for stolen bikes while on patrol. The stickers are made of indestructible material. We were told that we could organize a neighborhood event and officers would come out on a specified day/specific location and register any bike in the neighborhood. We were also reminded that as our Community Action Officer, Aaron is trained to do Security Surveys. For free he will come to your house, do a walk thru and give suggestions on how to beef up personal security and tactics that deter thieves. To schedule a survey call Officer Aaron directly (602-361-0043)

<b>Action Items</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
Report any suspicious activity - if emergency call 911 for non-emergency 602-262-6151	All neighbors
Organize bike registration event in neighborhood	Board member or neighbor



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<b>Osborne Schools</b>	
<b>General Discussion</b>	
<p>Jen Page introduced Patricia Tate, Patricia is the superintendent for the Osborne School District. She thanked us as a neighborhood for our support in elections and let us know that Osborne is now the only district in Phoenix that has only A and B schools. Patricia says that since introducing the Common Core 4 years ago test scores have risen significantly in the district. As the superintendent she believes one of her major jobs is to keep costs down to insure not losing any programs. On average administrative costs per school run 12% in the US, 10% in AZ and 9% for the Osborne district. She let us know that Osborn has received many awards this past year and boasts some of the best art and music programs in the state. She reminded us about school tax credits and asked for our support. She also told us of ideas for the now closed Osborn School (Montecito) located on 7th street. The ideas range from expanding services for the VA, which is located across the street to turning it into an early childhood center with a sick bay for parents who had no other options for childcare. In tandem with this idea is having Early Childhood students from ASU as a learning/working center for them as well. Another idea is to turn the center into a daycare for children with disabilities, there is a great need for this as there are no such daycare centers like this operating in Phoenix. Or turn it into a continuing education daycare for the elderly. They are still deciding on the fate of Montecito, but Patricia is very excited about the possibilities. Patricia is very proud of her school and offered to personally sit down and do a school tour with any interested neighbors. To learn more about Osborn School District: <a href="http://www.osbornnet.org/">http://www.osbornnet.org/</a> or to schedule a meeting and walk thru with Patricia personally: (602)707-2001 / <a href="mailto:ptate@osbornnet.org">ptate@osbornnet.org</a></p>	
<b>Phoenix Transportation - MovePHX</b>	
<b>General Discussion</b>	
<p>Erich introduced Patrick Brennan, from City of Phoenix Transportation. Patrick was there to tell us about the MovePHX initiative and to tell us that this plan will be on the upcoming August 25th ballot. Patrick told us why this plan is so important to the future of Phoenix - Phoenix's future as a world class, 21st century city depends on a modern connected public transportation system, as proposed in the Phoenix City Council approved MOVE PHX plan, that will go to Phoenix voters on Tuesday August 25th. The Transportation Initiative will allow Phoenix to attract new businesses, connect our education hubs, ease congestion as we grow and repair aging streets. Whether you cruise Phoenix on a bus, in a car, on the light rail or by bike, there's something here to benefit everybody. The proposed MOVE PHX plan will extend the existing 0.4-cent state sales tax, which is set to expire in 2020, and add 0.3-cent to the existing state sales tax to cover the investments in the multi-modal transportation plan. So, if approved by voters, the tax will increase from 4 cents per \$100 taxable purchase to 7 cents per \$100 taxable purchase. The Phoenix City Council accepted recommendations from the broad-based Citizens Committee to expand the program to add street, bicycle and trail improvements to the multi-modal plan. The MOVE PHX plan will help people with disabilities get around the city easier by increasing Dial-a-Ride services and expand Bus routes and frequency. The plan will also add a light rail stop near the Disability Empowerment Center and the Virginia G. Piper Sports and Fitness Center at 50th Street and Washington. For more info on this plan: <a href="http://www.movephx.org">www.movephx.org</a></p>	
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
Vote August 25th	All neighbors



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<b>Neighborhood Services Department</b>	
<i>General Discussion</i>	
<p>Neighborhood Services Department Director, Lisa Huggins-Hubbard reminded all neighbors to please use the MyPhoenix app to inform the city of any graffiti or blight in our neighborhood. She reminded us that by using the app the city will know the exact location of either debris or graffiti and dispatch clean-up or to reach the department by email/phone: <a href="mailto:blight@phoenix.gov">blight@phoenix.gov</a> 602-262-7844.</p>	
<i>Action Item's</i>	<i>By Whom</i>
Report any graffiti and/or blight	All neighbors
<b>Treasurer Update</b>	
<i>General Discussion</i>	
<p>Woodlea-Melrose Treasurer, Kathy O'Donnell gave us an update on current funds. To date we have @4,300.00 in our treasury. the biggest boost to our funds came from the success of the Street Fair which raised nearly 1,500.00. Kathy says this amount is triple from any past events. The main reason this event was so successful was by the amazing turn out, support and participation of so many neighbors! Kathy let us know that some funds have been allocated to pay for electricity for newly installed LED alley lights in advance. Neighbors then told us of 3 separate lights that have yet to work.</p>	
<i>Action Item's</i>	<i>By Whom</i>
Work on getting last 3 LED alley lights up and running	Board
<b>Free Little Library</b>	
<i>General Discussion</i>	
<p>Vice Chair, Carly Rebuck, along with many neighbors are proud to announce that 3 - Little Free Libraries will be installed in our neighborhood sometime in April or May! Little Carly organized these libraries and built them all from neighbor donations. Free Library is a nonprofit organization, they support the worldwide movement to offer free books housed in small containers to members of a local community. Communities build/install and provide books free for all. The idea behind the libraries is "leave a book, take a book". The libraries have been built, registered and locations designated (one on 9th ave, one at Toolshed and another on Heatherbrae. The libraries will be installed sometime this month or in May. Carly is still accepting books (there are 2 adult and 1 kids library). If you have any books you would like to donate please feel free to drop off in the bins on her porch: 1325 west Roma</p>	
<i>Action Item's</i>	<i>By Whom</i>
Book donations	all neighbors