



Woodlea Melrose Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

WMNA February General Meeting / Crime Summit

Tuesday, April 5th, 7:00 pm, Seventh Day Adventist Church, 777 W Montecito Ave

Attendees: 17

CRIME REPORT

General Discussion

Erich introduced Officer Aaron Stevens, our community action officer. Officer Stevens told us about a webpage that offers crime data crime happening in Phoenix.

<https://www.raidsonline.com/>

Site is updated regularly, but Aaron let us know that when a crime happens site can take up to 2 weeks to be updated to verify info. If you need more up to the minute info he has that in his data base and is always willing to answer neighbors questions (his contact info is below).

Officer Stevens then gave us an update on hiring within the Phoenix police force. Our police force has now begun hiring new recruits but for every 25 leaving the force we are receiving 17 new officers. Due to this shortage, officer patrol beats have been expanded and call times for certain calls have lengthened. But he let us know that our calls count. We are one of the best neighborhoods in terms of crime rates and that is no small part due to the amount of "suspicious activity, suspicious person calls" we make. Due to our diligence in keeping our eyes and ears out we have become one of the lowest crime rate neighborhoods in his beat. As always he urged - if you see someone that looks out of place, please call the non-emergency number (also posted below).

Officer Aaron then gave us crime stats:

April 2015 thru October 2015

5 Residential Burglaries

4 of these occurred in the surround apartments, 1 listed as townhouse.

6 Stolen Cars

3 from surrounding apartments, 2 from businesses, 1 residential

In that time period we also made 72 suspicious person/vehicle calls.

Aaron says are relatively low crimes are in direct correlation to the amount of calls we have made

Last 6 months

7 Residential Burglaries

5 of these occurred in surrounding apartments and 2 houses within neighborhood

8 Stolen cars

2 from streets and 6 from surrounding apartments/businesses

In the last 6 months we made 83 suspicious person/vehicle calls



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Officer Stevens relayed yet again - in his years on the Phoenix police force he has not seen any other neighborhood with the level involvement we have committed.

For Phoenix in general Officer Stevens reported there have been no major crime trends and a drop in property crime all around.

For our part he recommended we call if anything is missing. Even if the item stolen is small/not expensive. No calls are frivolous. By calling, the police can track any crime waves and will have on record incidents so they know how many officers to include in our beat. He also let us know by calling in suspicious person/vehicle officers could stop these individuals because there was due cause. Or if later in the day a crime was committed they could know who might have been around at that time and who to look for.

He also suggested reporting online. The system is simple and easy.

To report a crime you can call the Mountain View Precinct directly

Phone: 602-495-5007

Email: MTVMessage.PPD@phoenix.gov

Or to report a crime using the online service:

<https://www.phoenix.gov/policesite/Documents/098300.pdf>

At the meeting the problem of folks hanging out on the canal was also brought up. Officer Stevens urged us to inform police if we see this. He let us know that the police's number one priority is getting these folks help, not just arresting them. He told us that officers have valuable information and services to offer.

Recently there were numerous reports of a speeder along Glenrosa. One neighbor got a photo of their license plate and Officer Stevens was able to locate this individual. He informed us that after speaking with this gentleman he was assured that he would no longer be speeding thru our neighborhood.

On the subject of speeders - Officer Stevens is working on repairing an electronic speed sign radar and will soon be placing it on 7th ave and then within our neighborhood. These temporary flashing radars have been proven to slow folks down.

On the subject of Bicycle registration and thefts - he informed us that bike thefts remain about the same and anyone who has not registered their bike can do so at one of the many events held by the Mountain View Precinct. For more info on these events:

<https://www.phoenix.gov/police/precincts/mountain-view>

One neighbor then asked about solicitors.

From Oct. 1 to March 31, the hours they are legally permitted to knock on doors is 9am till 7pm

From April 1 to Sept 30, the hours are 9am till 9pm

He urged us to install No Solicitor signs and if we have someone knocking/ringing to definitely answer door as this could be someone casing to see if the house is occupied. He also said to not open door as 99% of these solicitors are scams.



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Lastly Aaron reminded us that one of the ways to curb crime is by having a property survey done. For free Aaron will come to your house and give you proven crime deterrent tips. Some tips he mentioned at meeting: Keep lawn and landscaping neat and away from doors and windows, place locks on all gates, installing outdoor lighting.

For any neighbor interested in having a FREE survey done please contact Officer Stevens directly to set up an appointment. PH: 602-262-6151 or Email: aaron.stevens@phoenix.gov

Action Items	By Whom
Report suspicious activity - if emergency call 911 for non-emergency call 602-262-6151	All neighbors

Wrap - Up

General Discussion

Board Chair, Erich Schwald announced that this month's (April) FYF will take place at a Poetry event happening near the Grid Bikes along 7th Ave. Info on event: April FYF will be sponsored by the Phoenix Office of Arts & Culture and Reimagine Phoenix! Celebrate National Poetry Month as a neighborhood with poetry readings and typewriter activities for kids (and adults!) at the 7th Avenue at Melrose Curve Public Art Project (in front of Melrose Vintage on 7th Ave & Glenrosa). District 4 Councilwoman Laura Pastor will kick off the festivities and Jia Oak Baker, Tomas Stanton and other poets will read from their work. Friday, April 29, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Melrose Curve Public Art Project (7th Ave. & Glenrosa)

Lastly there was discussion of Canalscape plans and impact on our neighborhood. The project has been modified and will now include a longer stretch of canal but will scaled back as far as material used - pathways will now be aggregate surfaces instead of poured cement. The project will also include a HAWK light (this is same light that is currently in place at Glenrosa and 7th ave)

<http://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/FHWA-10-042-Safety-Effectiveness-of-the-HAWK-Pedestrian-Crossing-Treatment.pdf>

This new HAWK light will be placed on 7th at the canal to allow pedestrians and cyclist a safe cross walk.

With the installation of this new light there is talk of getting rid of the crosswalk currently in place on 7th Ave and Turney. This particular cross walk has proven very treacherous to pedestrians and motorists alike. The city is aware of the problems and looking to remediate them