



Woodlea Melrose Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

WMNA February General Meeting

Tuesday, February 2nd, 7:00 pm, Seventh Day Adventist Church, 777 W Montecito Ave

Attendees: 24

Block Watch

General Discussion

Erich introduced the 2016 WMNA board. Erich Schwald/Chair, Rebecca Wager/Vice Chair + New Neighbor Ambassador, Erin Hageman/Newsletter editor, Kathy O'Donnell/Treasurer, Brian Davidson/Block Watch Coordinator, Patti Karnes/Secretary. Erich let neighbors know that moving forward if there is an issue that relates to community safety to address directly with Brian. Brian can be reached at blockwatch@woodleamelrose.org

Erich then introduced Officer Aaron Stevens, our community action officer. Aaron conveyed that even though we made more "suspicious activity" calls than other neighborhoods we actually had the lowest incidents of crime. Since November he reported there were 50 calls and 4 reported break-ins. He then compared this to another neighborhood in our district (7th ave, South of Thomas) that had reported 44 break-ins. He attributed our low crime numbers to neighbors being aware and keeping an eye out for suspicious activity. Aaron also let us know that the city has been experiencing a record high number of transient camps. Due to these numbers the police force has begun doing a city wide sweep. He let us know that if we suspect anyone living illegally to please report to the crime stop number. Officer Stevens also 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



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Neighborhood Services

General Discussion

Lisa Hubbard, of Phoenix Neighborhood services announced that Woodlea-Melrose was 1 of only 5 Phoenix neighborhoods that awarded a mini-grant this year for 1,000. This grant "Love Your Block" is funded through Cities Of Services. 7 US cities were chosen to participate in this program this year. Love Your Block is a neighborhood revitalization innovative that Woodlea-Melrose is proud to be a part of. With funds from this min-grant our neighborhood will be repairing and painting our irrigation boxes. An email and Facebook will follow with details on program and also with photos of proposed idea. The hope is to make these boxes a neighborhood a feature instead of detraction. Over the years our boxes have been the target of graffiti and many are in need of cosmetic repair. Lisa also reminded us that her office works as a liaison for neighborhood issues. The city has created an app - myPhxAZ - if you see a neighbor who is not properly maintaining their property or any other urban blight (graffiti/trash) you can use this app to contact city services. Or you can also email/call them Phone: 602-534-4444 / Email: nsd@phoenix.gov

Lisa also announced that the empty lot on west side of 7th ave (behind pink liquor store) will be breaking ground soon. As has been mentioned at past meetings, this lot is now owned by PB Bell and they will be building, The Curve at Melrose, a luxury apartment development.

For anyone interested in a Canalscape update there will be a public meeting on February 11th from 5:30 until 7pm. This is a design update meeting and there will also be an open forum. If you would like to attend: <http://grandcanalscape.com/event/grand-canalscape-phase-1-design-update-meeting/>

Lisa also let us know of a new program offered by the city called "Neighborhood College". <https://www.phoenix.gov/nsd/neighborhoodcollege>

Neighborhood College is a one-of-a-kind collaboration of workshops and hands-on learning experiences brought to you by multiple city departments. The intent of the program is to provide each participant with knowledge about the city's programs, services and resources; the tools to access those resources; and the skills and ideas with which to build positive, sustainable communities.

Everyone is welcome! Regardless of whether you're a seasoned community leader or a new resident just looking to get to know your new home better, Neighborhood College is flexible enough to meet the needs of all Phoenix residents! We hope to see you at one of our many free workshops - and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Here's a look at our current class offerings. If you're interested in a subject you don't see here, please let us know. There are three ways to register for a workshop: 1) register online, 2) email neighborhood.college@phoenix.gov or 3) call 602-534-4444.

Finally, the subject was brought up to Lisa regarding the rash of unleashed dogs in the neighborhood. Her suggestion was to contact County Animal Control with any issues <http://www.maricopa.gov/pets/>

Action Items	By Whom
Report Graffiti / Urban Blight	All neighbors



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Newsletter

General Discussion

Erin Hageman announced that the newsletter will now be going digital. Our current newsletter cost is 1/4 of our entire block watch budget and by going "green" the neighborhood will now be able to funnel those funds into other neighborhood projects. This was also announced in an email, on facebook as well as printed in last newsletter. Erin asked if anyone knows of a neighbor who does not have access to a computer to please let her know their address. Although the newsletter is going digital there will be a small amount printed out for any neighbors who do not have email access. Also if any neighbors would like to contribute articles or ideas for upcoming newsletters to please contact her. Erin can be reached at newsletter@woodleamelrose.org or you can drop off a note in mailbox at 1108 W Mackenzie Drive.

Wrap - Up

General Discussion

Meeting was wrapped up with mention of logistics involved in meeting requirements in order to receive the Love Your Block grant. For the grant the city is looking for 10-20 volunteers who are willing to help repair and paint irrigation boxes. The project also must be completed by the end of May (2016). Over the course of the next few months the WMNA will be holding event days. Please look in your mail and check face for updates. Hope to see you all there.

Lastly a sign-up sheet was sent around the room looking for volunteers to help with this years booth for the 7th St. Festival. This is our one fund raiser each year and we can use all the help we can get to make it successful. Updates soon to follow in email and on facebook with slots available. The street fair will be on March 5th this year. Reminder to neighbors - 7th ave will be shut down that day from 4am until 9pm.