

Ravensworth Farm Civic Association General Membership Meeting
Final Minutes
October 29, 2009 – 7:40pm

Introduction

The October general membership meeting of the association was held at Ravensworth Elementary School. Steve Price called the meeting to order. He provided an update on the triple homicide that occurred in the neighborhood about a year ago.

The May 28, 2009 general membership minutes were approved.

Neighborhood Watch

S. Price reminded the membership that Ravensworth Farm used to have a neighborhood watch program. However, this program has lapsed for many years. Recently, many incidents have occurred in the neighborhood, especially vandalism over the summer. Now is a good time to look at establishing a neighborhood watch program once again. To participate in neighborhood watch is to stand up for your property, your family, and your neighborhood.

Officers J.T. Frey and Pete Fiegleson provided an overview of Neighborhood Watch (John Bower, a volunteer for the police department and specialist in crime prevention, also attended and assisted in answering questions). A questions and answer period followed the presentation. The goal of Neighborhood Watch is to eliminate opportunity and, therefore, also victim. The desired effect is to push criminals out of our neighborhood and deter teenagers. 60% of car larceny occurs with unlocked cars. Between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. is when house larceny typically occurs. The police officers instructed the membership to always should report suspicious activity. If in doubt, call the police non-emergency number 703-691-2131. It is not an inconvenience. The police are out patrolling the streets and need neighbors to call and alert them of a potential problem. Don't rationalize what you are seeing. Call the police if it seems suspicious.

The next step to establishing a neighborhood watch program is to have a more informative and detailed meeting. About 25 volunteers would be the desirable number to start our Neighborhood Watch. Magnetic sign for cars and/or hats, something to indicate neighborhood watch is needed so criminals move on and other neighbors get involved.

Budget

R. Tun reviewed the annual operational budget, which is about 13K and balanced. He reported that currently \$500 is budgeted for contingency and could potentially cover the cost of establishing Neighborhood Watch. Capital expenditures include new neighborhood signs, tree trimming at the entrances, and our 50th Anniversary celebration.

Kathleen Powers motioned to approve the annual budget. Katherine Craig seconded the motion. All approved. The 2010 budget was approved by the membership.

Committee Updates

S. Price thanked K. Craig for taking on and completing the advertisement for both the Farmer and Directory. He also reported the Elissa Myers volunteered to head Directory distribution.

K. Craig asked the general membership for volunteers to aid in weeding and mulching the entranceways. Dean Fix volunteered to mulch. Martin Perret volunteered to weed.

50th Anniversary

M. Lipsey provided an update on the 50th Anniversary celebration of the neighborhood. Saturday, March 20th, from 5:00 – 8:30 pm a potluck will be held at the Ravensworth Elementary School. M. Lipsey asked the membership to contact original owners who have moved out of the neighborhood and invite them to attend the celebration.

Golden Ravens

November 18th the Golden Ravens will be meeting at the Church on Inverchapel Road at 11:00 to hear a presentation on Alzheimer's and how to help improve your memory starting in your 30s.

International Picnic

A coordinator is needed to head the International Picnic.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.