

Board of Directors' Meeting
CPD Conference Room
December 17, 2007

Call to Order: President Connie Howe called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Attending were Richard Gray, Dan Adams, Susan Clark, Connie Howe, Richard Heimburger and Officer Mike Hayes.

Minutes: Members noted on the November attendance roster an "x" was needed in the "1st 3 year" column for Richard Gray and an "x" was needed in the present column for Richard Heimburger. With those changes a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the November minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Richard Gray noted that \$75.00 in contributions were given to him at the start of the meeting leaving a balance in the account of \$962.70. From that total a \$25.00 check was written for annual dues to the National Association Town Watch.

Old Business: Dr. Heimburger reported Rotary Club meets the first and last Thursday of the month so he has scheduled Neighborhood Watch to speak at the January 31st meeting. Interested members can remain after the January 14th Board meeting to discuss and plan the presentation for the Rotary meeting.

Officer Hayes reported several areas are being re-energized and he is receiving more phone calls from individuals interested in establishing Neighborhood Watch Programs. He presented a special request from Beat 35 requesting installation of Neighborhood Watch signs prior to having a simple majority signed up. He reported the leader of that particular group is working very hard to get the additional homes signed up and expects them to achieve the necessary majority in the near future. A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the request.

New Business: Connie Howe reported neighbors in Beat 25 are working to address crimes and related issues raised by the recent murder at the Comfort Inn. Efforts to include the Links are ongoing and arranging an event to encourage interest of residents of the Links is a possibility.

There was general discussion of the benefit of good lighting and it was noted that well-kept and well-maintained areas discourage criminal activity. Residents should be encouraged to turn on outside lights and to consider installation of motion lights.

Report from Officer Hayes: A Community Action meeting is scheduled for December 18 at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church to discuss crime and violence in Columbia. Time and details will be emailed to Board members later today.

Stonecrest, Auburn Hills, Arcadia, Belmont Park and Copper Creek are moving forward to establish Neighborhood Watch programs in their subdivisions. Officer Hayes reported he has an outline for additions for the training video. The January newsletter will be the last one mailed and will contain information notifying everyone it will be available on line in the future.

Members discussed producing a DVD to use for presentations to civic groups in the future.

Members would like to continue to work with the Optimists on the children's safety poster contest.

Officer Hayes reports now is the time to work on increasing membership in Neighborhood Watch and to continue educating the public to avoid being victims of crime. The timing is right to increase membership in Neighborhood Watch because it is the positive solution to many of the current crime problems.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.