

**SAMARKAND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD AND ASSOCIATION MEETING
January 19, 2005, 5:30 p.m.
Mountain Room, Samarkand Retirement Community**

Minutes

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Guest Presentations: A summary of the guest presentation neighborhood security by Anita Chamberlain, Santa Barbara Area 5 Beat Coordinator, appended at the end of the minutes.

- 2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:** Peter Basch, Wayne Beckman, John Calder, Anna DeVore, Judy Freeman, Terry Johnson, Jack Meyer, Jim Smith, and Charlie Stapleton (Absent: Joyce Duncan Falk, Dave and Gwen Morse).

Guests: Anita Chamberlain, Santa Barbara Police Department Area 5 Beat Coordinator

- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** One correction was made in the title of John Rosenfeld (architect to attorney). Minutes were approved as amended (M/S/C John Calder/Terry Johnson)

- 4. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jim Smith reported a balance of \$1501.64. We had one bounced check and one new member. We are still waiting for information on where to send \$50 to Allied for the appeal to the loft project.

- 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Committee Updates

Allied Neighborhood Associations:

No update

Zoning:

Peter Basch wanted to discuss the issue of keeping internally (privately) the names of people who make referrals about zoning violations. The one complaint that had been referred to us was withdrawn. Is there a concern about any legal issues with us taking complaints? Charlie Stapleton asked about the process for complaints. Anna explained that the City requires a complaint in order to act upon a violation.

We decided to hold off and get more information. John will talk to zoning about issues of our liability and the process.

- 6. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Newsletter: John volunteered to postup. A suggestion was made that it would be helpful to have agendas a week in advance. Judy volunteered to help with flyers to advertise meetings. Public Works may have a list of all addresses. (Kathleen Barnatto may also have them with her real estate publications. An address list will be compiled. Samarkand participants are about 2:1 over neighborhood residents. We need to encourage homeowner participation.

A. Directory: Peter shared some sample directories. They cost \$.70 apiece for them with covers. We could walk them around the neighborhood. It was suggested that we check CopyMax for an even better price.

A. February Meeting Date: Given that the next meeting date will be adjacent to the Presidents' holiday weekend, it was suggested that we move our next meeting to a week later. A motion was made change the meeting date to February 23 from February 16.. (M/S/C Charlie Stapleton/Judy Freeman)

B. Other Business: Peter requested that we add a regular agenda item for other business that might not be on the regular agenda. It was agreed to include this on the formal agenda items as "Other Business." This would be a time slot where Board members might have general, open discussion of issues. Board response was positive.

Jim brought up positive things that could be done in the neighborhood. For example, we could consider a Samarkand Beautiful Award to recognize neighbors. This could be publicized online and to the NewsPress.

Charlie asked for an update of the General Plan, and there was general interest in this.

7. COMMUNICATION

A. Confirmation of meetings:

February meeting: Thursday, February 23, 5:30 pm, (Garden Room?)

Guest: No guest was planned for this meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m. (M/S/C Judy Freeman/Charlie Stapleton)

Respectfully submitted:

Jack Meyer, Secretary

Neighborhood Security Presentation

Anita Chamberlain, Area 5 Beat Coordinator.

Right now Anita is covering two beats. A “Beat Coordinator” is a fancy name for a senior officer who is responsible for a particular area. She says it is sometimes like a “complaint department,” but she is able to refer issues along to appropriate personnel.

Neighborhood concerns: Graffiti. We don’t see as much here in the North, but it is spreading to here. It is a neighborhood issue; the sooner it is remediated, the better. Graffiti HOTLINE: 897-2513 It is an automated number. The more specific you can be, the better. On private property: Graffiti ordinance encourages cleanup. There is only one person handling this, multiple reports on an issue are okay.

Anita’s desk number: 897-3703

Main Police Dept. Number: 897-2300 (Press 0 to get through to an operator)

We should be aware that a homeless population is camping in Oak Park. Law requires that they cannot be in the park after dark. On the other hand, a camp must be warned before it is cleaned out by authorities. One of the issues with the homeless population is the lack of restriction on drinking alcoholic beverages. For this to change, the neighbors have to bring it to the attention of the City.

City trends: Auto burglaries are increasing. This has not happened as much in this beat, but it is increasing in the City. People are leaving valuable property in cars, making them attractive targets. Locking cars is a deterrent. Concept: “Harden your target,” the idea of making theft more difficult. Anita noted that three burglaries have occurred recently in the San Roque area.

Mark Mathews, an attendee, shared a burglary experience in EastView, a far extension of the Samarkand, where someone used a passkey and entered the premises. Mr. Mathews noted the importance of communicating among neighbors about local issues. A neighborhood watch might be beneficial.

Ms. Chamberlain acknowledged the neighborhood watch program as being important. You can have one that is not necessarily formal. One neighborhood published records of issues and tips for safety. If we organize this, then the gang unit will come and speak to use.

Questions: Is a permit required to sell door to door: Yes. Also, there is an ordinance against solicitations after dark.

Is it possible to get summaries of neighborhood incidents? No. But, Channel 17: SB officers on Thursdays, go through each beat and discuss crime trends. There is not a formal incident list however available.

General Discussion:

Identity theft: Beware of checks in mailboxes. Shredding is good.

Handouts were provided.