

January 28, 2013

Roll Call: Present Stacy Ross, Ted Disabato, Brenda Smarko, Jan Hill, Kendal Dauphin, Beth Murphy

Primary election is March 5th

Reports:

Peggy Meyer – Principal of Woerner School

Update: Woerner has 400 students, preschool – 5th grade; pull students from Holly Hills, Bevo; Feed to Long and Blow Schools; Feel free to call for a visit; 85% of students on free or reduced lunch; Woerner has single gender class rooms; Been using single gender class rooms for 2 years and so far has been successful; 22 is average class size;

Officer Jim Cox and Captain Dan Howard

Captain Howard: Looks positive with new Police Chief; great relationship with City Hall; tough on bad guys

So far this year, one burglary on 3272 Federer and two cars broken into in the neighborhood; There have been some issues with car break in in YMCA lot; going to have more officers on the lot; Keep items in your car out of view; put them in the trunk;

Three homicides in Dutchtown in the beginning of the year; Have suspects in custody in two of the cases; seven robberies in two-week span; six of them were people in from another neighborhood purchasing marijuana;

Officer Cox: Provided paperwork on break in statistics - times and days that are most popular for break ins (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday midday) Also a booklet on ways to protect your home, safety tips;

Taking poll on who would be interested in neighborhood ownership program; We want to make sure we have enough people interested in it before we begin

Officer Cox is a part of the neighborhood ownership program for Bevo; very successful there; One example- burglary on Morganford, Bevo residents went to sentencing of defendant and he received 20 years; Can be very successful once up and running;

Top one or two things to make a priority in your home:

1. Make sure nothing valuable in sight of windows when you are not home
2. Keep trusted neighbors informed if you are out of town or gone for an extended time

Burglar alarms are useful; the noise itself can scare burglars away;

Question: Can neighborhood spend money on trained people to walk the neighborhood for security?
Captain Howard feels our neighborhood is safe and not to that point yet

Brian Kolde: 11th Ward Neighborhood Stabilization Officer

Has worked a lot with neighborhood watch – different from neighborhood ownership model, which is much more extensive;

Neighborhood Watch: groups of people as neighbors being aware of what is going on on your block; Get the block to meet regularly to discuss what is going on for that block; Distributed pamphlets on how to organize your block; Happy to come to the meeting if your block is interested in getting a Neighborhood Watch together; try to get 50% of your block to participate

Can also discuss problem properties where there are behavioral, nuisance activities;

Car theft; The Club almost 100% effective in preventing; Has clubs available for purchase; \$13 ; Also in the Collector of Revenue’s office; Cash only

Tips: if you are in your yard, keep the doors locked; so important to just be aware of your surroundings, for yourself and your neighbors

Next Step: Safety Expo; Sunday Afternoon April 7 1-3 p.m. at the Rec Plex (see page 1); information on safety and security; alarm companies invited.

Announcements:

Tammy Brownfield-Neighborhood Directory – Mira Digital Publishing

Will list all businesses in the neighborhood, maps, neighbors, available on line; advertising is available if interested;

EMT Allegra Grizzanti and Paramedic Melissa Rieger

Ambulances have been shut down in the city; Went from about 12 ambulances to 10 for the entire city; Response times are much longer; many times a day they go NUA (no ambulances available); private ambulances go NUA about as often as the city ambulances; City ambulance cost about \$500 per trip billed to patient and private about \$1,000;

2 major reasons for this shut down:

1. EMS is understaffed
2. Not allowed to use overtime employees to cover the gaps

Contact your Alderman, Director of Pub Security; anyone that can assist in getting this issue known

Dennis Trask - Bevo Long Community Educational Center

Lots of fun classes; some are low cost and some are free; pamphlets available

13th Ward Alderman Fred Wessels

Spoke with Chief Jenkerson and he had several good reasons for ambulance shut downs. City has liberal vacation and family leave guidelines and there is no OT available; Firefighters can respond to emergency calls but they are not always able to handle cases that EMS can.

Both Aldermen are available at Schnucks every Friday 8:30-10:30

Spring and Delor Apartments; Will look very nice; not section 8 housing; \$12 million project;

Kitchen and Bath store at Holly Hills and Morganford – nothing certain, however the gentleman interested in this spoke of parking a construction trailer there to work out of temporarily; if you see this call Fred! He will not let this happen

Water Issue –Veolia says there will be no layoffs, no sale of the water division; However, employees of the Water Dept are not agreeable to having an outside company come in;

11th Ward Alderman Tom Villa

Items stolen in yards and garage in 11th Ward; Neighbors need to be vigilant; Prostitution Ring still prevalent on Broadway;

New sidewalks going into the park to YMCA and the bridge will be done as well; New trees in at Holly Hills and Arendes; Passed tougher bill on re-sale of stolen cell phones; Shoppers Cleaners building is condemned; Neat building but will need someone with money to come in and refurbish it.

Cameras in the ally, they are expensive and not always effective; Once they catch on to where the cameras are, they park their car so they are not visible

Harry Kennedy - Legislative Director for Lewis Reed

Water issue off the agenda for now; STL spends a lot of \$ on our water;