

Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2013

President Carl Schrader called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Members present per sign-in sheets are on file.

Speaker

Police Chief Holloway told us that he will be visiting each neighborhood to explain the CPD Strategic Plan. The key initiative is to make citizens and visitors feel safe in the community. There is a plan for follow-up to make sure the initiative is really working. Copies of the 5 year plan will be provided to the members at a subsequent meeting. Each neighborhood association will be contacted, beginning in the next few weeks, by the CPD to set up a meeting date. A gun buy-back program is being planned and there is also a pill drop off program that allows daily disposition of unused medicines at the CPD Headquarters. on Pierce St.

Officer Dewitt distributed flyers concerning the homicide at Glenwood Ave near Crest Lake Park. Anyone with information regarding this matter should call the Clearwater Police Dept.

Ekaterina Gerakios was not able to attend the meeting but provided information regarding the need for volunteers to participate in a Point in Time Count of the homeless population in the City.

Old Business

Secretary Report: The October, November & December minutes were presented for approval. No changes were made. A motion to accept as written was made by Ron Delp, 2nd by Howard Warshauer. Passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Doug Williams presented the Treasurers Report. A motion by Ron Delp was made to accept as written, 2nd by Howard Warshauer... Passed unanimously.

Presentation / Discussion

2013 Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition Survey: Carl Schrader did an on-line survey of 8 questions which was sent to 29 individuals, 8 responded. He went through the responses with the members. Top 4 Priorities are:

- Code Enforcement - Invite M.Delk & T.Teunis to explain the enforcement process. Send specific questions to Carl.
- Parks & Open Spaces – Invite Largo to a meeting to help us understand why Central Park works.
- Education
- Police Dept. Updates

It was felt that the CNC should continue to meet once a month at the same time and place.

Improvements suggested were:

- Forums on controversial issues
- Focused Committees to bring topics to the meetings
- Remain selective as to what we take on as time is limited

Open Meetings: Carl Schrader suggested the use of Ronde, a free conference call system, so that people who cannot physically attend the meeting can listen but not participate. The majority voted not to employ this.

New Business

Committee Groups & Assignments:

Postponed to next meeting.

Neighborhood / City Issues:

JoAnna Siskin asked for the support of the CNC to get the City to open one or two of the bathrooms in Crest Lake Park. The park is dying as vagrants are using the bushes as bathrooms and there are no facilities for children and park users. It was suggested that the CNC send a letter supporting the opening of the bathroom facilities. Motion by Howard Warshauer that the CNC write a letter to the City to re-open the bathrooms at Crest Lake Park with the signed petition attached. 2nd by Ric Ortega. Approved unanimously. Norma Carlough asked how we can get a complete history of Crest Lake Park.

The Budget Inn continues to be problematic with prostitutes and drug issues. Julie Thompson asked Ofc. Dewitt what can be done to get the business declared a nuisance. JoAnna Siskin said that the prostitutes drift eastward toward the bank at which she works. The situation has gotten so bad that the bank now closes at 5:00 pm on Fridays due to safety concerns. Eric Wilson said that hotels are licensed by the State of Florida and that we need to engage them. Carl asked that Julie send him the questions regarding code enforcement so that they can be forwarded M.Delk & T.Teunis.

Motion by Howard Warshauer, 2nd by Doug Williams to adjourn. Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Shelley Kuroghlian, Secretary