

AMBERFIELD HOA

Annual Meeting
November 17, 2005

Minutes

Attendance:

Board of Directors:

Wei Yan
Evan Meyers
Brenda Bayus
Pauline Loveland

Abaris Realty:

Shireen Ambush, Property Manager
Evan, Assistant

Residents:

Eleven

City of Gaithersburg Police:

Sergeant White

- The 25% quorum requirement was fulfilled by holding the annual meeting in November after the October's meeting quorum was not met
- The meeting was called to order and the sign-in sheet was passed around
- All residents were sent notices of the Annual Meeting to satisfy Proof of Notice Rule (in August and again in October)
- Waived the reading of last year's Annual Meeting minutes and the minutes were approved (Motion: Pauline Loveland, Second: Dee Sellers)
- Board members introduced themselves to the residents in attendance
- Sergeant White presented the facts on crime incidents in Amberfield and talked about crime and the area in general:
 - There were two Part 1 (Felonies) in Amberfield so far this year
 - 1 Burglary (Leafcup on 10/28)
 - 1 Robbery (AFL)
 - There were 83 calls for service in Amberfield in a six month period: 16 Disorderly Conduct, 10 False House Alarms, 6 Domestic Disputes, 51 Other (thefts, vandalism, parking, etc)
 - Sgt. White suggested setting up a Neighborhood Watch – they have been very effective in other communities. Would need to pick an organizer and block captains (oversee 10-15 houses)
 - 60% active participation is suggested for a Neighborhood Watch
 - The Board feels that we would not be able to get enough interested people to set up one formally; but some are in place informally in certain areas.
 - Everyone needs to get acquainted with their neighbors and become aware of their neighbors comings and goings
 - Leave outdoor porch lights on at night

- There is a big drug problem in Amberfield (near the Basketball Courts especially)
- Non-Emergency Police Number: 301/279-8000
- Admin Police Services: 301/258-6400 (traffic, parking, etc and ask for Sgt. White)
- Some suggestions for making your home and neighborhood safer:
 - Target Hardening
 - Can have police come to homes and check locks, windows, doors, etc
 - Look at visibility, fences, lighting, etc
 - Traffic
 - House checks – if you are going away for 3 or more days, an officer will check and walk around the house, 301/258-6400
 - If you rarely drive between the hours of 1 and 5am, can get sticker on back of car window; if the police see this sticker on a moving vehicle, will pull the car over
 - Engraver – can borrow to etch driver’s license number on valuables
 - Lighting
 - City has said it meets the minimum requirement
 - We think there are certain areas that could use increased lighting; Sgt. White suggested contacting the City Managers Office and ask if we can get evaluated for more lighting
 - Shireen asked the residents in attendance to look around and send her an email of areas that could use additional lighting – she will then send specific area requests to the City Managers Office
 - Noise Ordinance
 - 11pm – 7am Weekends
 - 10pm – 7am Weekdays
 - Must give one verbal warning first, before police can give citation
- One of the most important items that Sgt. White stressed was when calling the police to report an incident – and it’s a repeat problem – is to say the following: “This is a repeat problem and it’s in progress now”. Wording is very important in getting the police to respond in a timely manner
- Sgt. White offered the homeowners several different pamphlets on safety, crime, etc
- Election of Board Members
 - Nominated current Board Member Evan Meyers (whose terms has expired)
 - Nominated write-in candidate: Afthab Zainudeen
 - Open nominations from the floor:
 - Nelida Andres (234 LHD)
 - Brett Webster (210 FFD)

- Motion to close nominations by Barry Chaenkin
- Motion to accept all four (4) nominations by Acclamation (Motion by Dee Sellers and Second by Pauline Loveland)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm