

Board & Community Special Meeting
To Consider Actions for Crime Prevention
August 18, 2016
Four Lakes Gazebo

Attending: Board Members, Sharon Ayers, Dave Prochazka, Rod Case, Brendan Pecht, Brian Thompson and Terry Deschenes

Members: Triona Anderson, David and Lindsay Bundy, Willy and Vivienne Gevers, Shari Laverty, Nina Hufford, George Wittren, Linda Holechek, Evan Lurton, Mat and Janelle Wells, Glenn & Kathleen Ewing's son, Steve Scott, Steve and Vicki Jackson, Chauncey Deschenes

Guest: Deputy Mary Syson, King County Sheriff

Mary Syson, Deputy Sheriff met with those present and talked about various aspects of crime prevention.

1. As related to our specific situation, she talked about her personal experience was that gates did help.
2. Encouraged paying attention to who is in the neighborhood.
3. Advised that we should not block the road in response to an incident.
4. Call the sheriff if you are concerned
5. Thought highly of surveillance
6. Thought highly of houses being well-lit on the exterior
7. Don't hesitate to call the Sheriff's office if you see something suspicious!!

Began our regular meeting at this point.

She pointed out that good security is not accomplished through one method but is most effective when done in layers. From gating the community down to burglar alarms in your home.

Start of the regular meeting.

Not everyone had heard of the events over the past two weeks. Terry provided a synopsis on the burglaries at Chauncey Deschenes' and Linda Holechek's as well as the break in at Greenings with the resultant flash mob.

Terry explained the purpose of the meeting was to look for ideas and look for a consensus on what steps should be taken.

Before starting the discussion of the gate project, Terry explained what would be required to make it happen. This was to insure everyone started with realistic expectations of what was involved. This was going to require a special assessment to pay for. Basically we needed to have the research and planning

done so as to present a complete picture to the community at a special meeting to authorize assessment. An assessment would require 2/3 of the landowners support to approve. Likely time frame would be 3 to 4 months.

Idea 1 Gate the entry road.

Brian Thompson gave a short run down on what he and his group had found last year when they looked at this. There were proposals from two companies they had obtained. One was \$24,369 +tax and \$32,631 with tax.

There followed a number of questions about how do you... and what if.... Brian assured folks that there were solutions for their questions and the chair asked that a discussion of the details should wait until we had a complete proposal from Brian's committee. The Gate Committee has Brian Thompson as chair and has the following members

Idea 2 Surveillance cameras

Officer Syson remarked that surveillance is a good deterrent. But unfortunately of little use to police, unless it contains pictures of the actual criminal act. However it does discourage criminals and can be of great assistance neighborhood watch programs. Brian Thompson volunteered his group to research surveillance as well as the gate.

Idea 3 Decals for cars

All present thought this was a good idea that would be a great help to neighborhood watch efforts. Vivienne Gevers volunteered to research this issue, promising that they would be good looking as well as practical!

Idea 4 Improve Communications

Look at what methods were available to update the neighborhood on events. Mat and Janelle Wells volunteered to look into what technology was available to accomplish that.

Idea 5 Neighborhood Watch

The Sheriff no longer actively supports a Neighborhood Watch Program. But everyone, including Deputy Syson, agreed that this is by far the most effective method to combat crime in the neighborhood. The group talked for a while about how important this, but unfortunately no specific actions were agreed to. George Wittren encouraged people to confront anyone who they felt didn't belong in the neighborhood. After some debate it was concluded that while it was a good idea if you were up to doing so, it wasn't recommended for everyone. Terry will research further to see if there are some specific suggestions on how to get it organized and operational.

Idea 6 Lighting

The deputy had pointed out that well-lit homes were a definite discouragement to criminals. Briefly talked about lightening the streets and quickly concluded it would be BIG job, and wouldn't help many of the homes as they are substantially away from the road. It seemed the most prudent way to accomplish effective lighting needed to be left to the homeowners.

Meeting was adjourned until the various committees were ready to report on their results.