

SLNA Membership Meeting March 17, 2011

7PM (President Vic Ramirez held up in traffic - started meeting without him)

Bob Thompson asked about the APD Report on Burglary. Kim Rossmo talked about the Austin public safety commission which he is a part of. Kim talked about the APD Burglary in the Austin report. Kim had asked the commission for the report. In the meantime, a group called CLASP - Citizen Led Austin Safety Forum - did a survey. Their survey identified home burglary as top concern of Austin residents. Upshot is that burglary of home, burglary of non-business statistics show that Austin is about average for cities same size. We were under norm before. Residential burglary was up 33% in last year. Concern: total loss \$1500/yr per incident, \$14M of direct cost last year. The major issue is that APD only solved 5% of these crimes, but the national average is 12%. APD didn't have chance to respond, but they said will next month. (Vic arrived during this discussion.) There is apparently a resource allocation problem – burglary not getting attention it deserves. Commission will put pressure on APD to do something about this. Overall crime has been dropping. When Kim looked at it 2 years ago, SLNA had a low crime rate compared to rest of city but there are pockets in our neighborhood where it is high – i.e. section 8, rail lines, trailer park. But the APD study is not broken down into neighborhood. Krista asked what are the suggestions for a neighborhood watch. Kim said in fact they are shown not to be too effective but our email list is a good tool. Kim thinks there are too few people on it, though, and it would be great to beef it up. Krista - how about we go door to door to get people on the email list for a crime watch? Krista will come up with a communication plan to get this going.

Vic talked about our list serve. Nancy said there are about 230 members. Nancy and Carol are the admin's of our yahoo group. Vic - how can we get more participation? Polling component to our webgroup would be good. Nancy – we've been without a newsletter for over a year. When we had one, the group attendance did not go up. Vic talked about a local company, Borrowed Sugar, which is looking to develop a local neighborhood internet presence. Vic will invite them to next meeting to discuss their website ideas.

Nancy announced Cullen Hanks is SLNA's new treasurer. Nancy has got the SLNA checkbook and will go to the bank. We still need to get the membership info from the previous treasurer.

Bruce Evans talked about the park on Del Curto. He talked with Deanna Williams at Austin Parks and Rec - they have approved the location of the small bridge. A playscape is being selected. Benches and ideas for picnic tables. BBQ pit. Pavilion. Half-court basketball. Bruce showed pictures of these. Lights – where will they be? Bruce will find out. Frank Del Curto and Iva Raivey Del Curto – owned that land at one time.

Camille asked – anything new about the tire place on Lamar? Nancy – no news.

Krista – property at Del Curto/Lightsey - new sign, up for sale again. 2.5 acres.

Discussion ensued about other neighborhood news: New business Murphos at Fortview and Clawson (Eisenberg's garage). Seems to be funky new detail shop. Custom cars, pool tables. Clothing.¹

House across from duplexes on Del Curto – someone squatting in there? Matt's El Rancho landscape guy saw a hole in fence, and condominium residents have expressed concern that may be the case as they have had several burglaries occur just after leaving the residences. Seems someone was casing them.

Meeting Closed 8:45PM