

Meeting #3 Notes

September 7, 2017

Kathy Arthur, Countryside

Block Watch, Off-duty PD program is 10 years old; uses Next Door

(4) 4-hour shifts per week, scheduled by detective; matches patrol shifts to information from Metro Patrol

Programs started 10 years ago

Private duty officers caught suspect

Hard to quantify what hasn't happened; very quiet neighborhood; report every month from Parsons; officers have to submit activity sheets

Neighbors repeatedly have supported continuing the program

Officers do respond to calls in adjacent neighborhoods

Half of their budget annually, \$35k per year, 450 homes, \$125/year dues

Reports and schedule is sent to POC (Kathy), then to the board; not shared with larger community

Block watch - building a sense of community; general communications, captain update list once a year and share hard copies with neighbors; no meetings

Occasionally [?]

Seen as a deterrent for property crime by KCPD; can't respond to some types of incidents (in progress) until back-up arrives to follow 2-person response protocol

Did review private security, preferred off-duty PD

Clem Helmstetter, Greenway Fields

GWF pools money as part of WestSide for off-duty PD patrols

Nearly 15 years, \$20k annually

Prefer armed officer that has authority to take some actions; schedule is random

Invite officers to picnics/social events, same officers (from pool of 5 or 6) typically

Occasionally called to some calls in the surrounding area, but rarely happens

Question: proactive or reactive

All responded they were responded to property crimes at the time (20 years-ish ago)

Professional burglars; limited [?]

Kathy – [residents] have a greater sense of security with presence

Brian Hand, Armour Fields; Chair of Security

Private security in place when he started, but inconsistent as a business

Evaluated private firms and PD, selected Chesley Brown; unarmed officers in marked vehicles

Uncomfortable with PD setting the schedule without neighborhood input; Chesley Brown agreed to include neighborhood input in schedule

7 days a week, 6 hours per day during the week, 4 hours per day on weekend; 24/7 hour response; vacation checks, 2-3 times per day; will respond to noisy party-type complaints; officers call

Chesley Brown can be alarm contact for house alarms

788 homes, \$40k per year; \$135/year (used to pay \$95 mandatory, \$75 security with 75/85% participation); deterrent, not a magic bullet; follow-up on calls for solicitors

Few crimes;

Side discussion about dues/delinquency rates

- Kathy – Countryside also increased mandatory dues to include security
- Countryside considering CID; 70% pay dues
- Greenway Fields is a CID, was \$220, 67 – 70 percent paid; now \$140/year as a CID
- Armour Fields, 90% pay at this point

General group discussion/questions

Cars being messed with will not change – only changes with locked cars (Brian)

Still have burglaries – reminders for strategies (break down boxes from gifts, for example); stuff visible from the street;

All have Block Watch, some blocks are more active than others, participation often depends on activity (comes and goes)

Cultivate relationships with delivery drivers, mail carriers for extra eyes

Porch light program – Greenway Fields Holland commented on lights – with sensors

None had any information on KCPD 9PM program, yet

3 incidents in Greenway Fields so far in 2017; checking doors, unlocked car, people issues (might have been bar related)

Chesley Brown, response time 3 – 5 minutes

Question – what do they do when they respond,

Check house after burglary; if unsafe, they will call 911 and wait

Chesley Brown CAN restrain someone on private property (???)

During their shift, they do leave to patrol other areas and then come back (back and forth)

Do the officers “sit?” Complaint was not an issue (doing paperwork)