

# McDuffie-Twin Parks Neighborhood Association

## Minutes for Meeting on June 8, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM. There were 16 residents in attendance and full representation of the Board.

First order of business was a presentation by Sandy Martinez-Pino, APD Area Command Crime Prevention Specialist, from the Phil Chacon Memorial Substation – Southeast, 800 Louisiana SE. Accompanying her was police officer Joe Gustavez.

Sandy gave general background of our area command, expressing her amazement at how little crime we have. She also wants the public to understand the difference between calling **911** (reporting ongoing, life threatening crime) and **242-COPS** (crime that happened earlier and you want to report it). When you call, the situation is prioritized as follows:

- Priority 1** – Something is in progress such as a crime or an accident
- Priority 2 or 3** – Something that has already happened.

Sandy went over how to report a stolen car and handed out cards to fill out with information about your car, including:

- Year
- Make
- Model
- Color(s)
- Identifying Marks
- License Plate # and state
- VN # (which is found where the dashboard meets the windshield on the driver's side)
- Registered Owner
- Insurance Co.
- Policy #

When you give this information to the police officer it will be put into a computer system when your car is stolen. **Do not keep this information in your car!**

She also clarified the following police terminology:

- A robbery involves a weapon.
- A residential burglary occurs when you are not at home.

If you hear a noise, don't go into your house. Go to a neighbor and call 911.

When you go into your house and see that a residential burglary has occurred, don't touch anything. Otherwise you will contaminate the crime scene. The items most stolen are:

- Flat screen TVs
- Lap top computers
- Cameras
- Weapons
- Jewelry

She encourages residents to take a picture of these kinds of items and write down their serial numbers.

She also encouraged the formation of a neighborhood watch for each block.

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She also praised **311** which you call if you don't know which city department to contact with an issue or problem. You are given a tracking # and when nothing happens, you can use this number when re-calling. This generates an email to the relevant department. Cuts phone time down by 75%. She also commented that people often call police to handle non-police matters. This is a waste of police resources. Call 311 instead. They will direct you to the correct department.

We have a beat officer assigned to our area. But if nothing's happening in our area, that officer may go to another area to help. [*Note: This is why it is important to report any crime no matter how small or insignificant. Otherwise, resources are not spent in our area.*]

The police will do a security survey analysis inspection of your home. Call 256-2973 to set up an appointment. However, you can also do your own survey. Stand on the sidewalk in front of your house and look for the following:

- No shrubs higher than 3 feet.
- Keep trees clean.
- The first worst place to leave your car is on the street.
- The second worst place is in your driveway.

Also present at the meeting was our city councilor, **Mike Cook**. He notified us that a recreational center will be built in Jerry Cline Park at Constitution and Louisiana. Honda Arroyo is being rebuilt to capture water for landscaping. He announced his upcoming Town Hall meeting that was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Palo Duro Senior Center. He also talked about the cost of replacing the watering system in Hidden Park which is estimated to cost approximately a half a million dollars. Several residents around the park expressed concerns over:

- maintenance
- water
- safety.

[*Note: As we know, the maintenance and water issues have been addressed, at least partially, and McDuffie/Hidden Park has improved greatly.*]

The minutes were approved. We currently have 89 active members and there is \$726 in the treasury.

The Board also voted for a Go-Fly-A-Kite event to be held in April, 2012, in Twin Parks. A committee was formed. Barry Simon will coordinate this committee.

The Transportation and Safety Committee is currently surveying households through an on-line survey about potential issues.

The Board voted against having an Arts and Craft Fair in Hidden Park in 2013.

It was announced that there would be a National Night Out celebration in Hidden Park on Tuesday, August 2, 2011.

It was decided that the Board will explore signage for announcing meetings as well as welcoming travelers to our area.

There was a general discussion of cleaning up cut-throughs and alleys. [*Note: These were cleaned thanks to the efforts of Carol Morris.*]

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.