



Glenmore Valley Community Association

Minutes of the Wednesday, May 30th, 2012

General Meeting

Kelowna Bible Chapel

Directors in attendance: Kim Dodds, Marlene Miller, Richard Wensink, Dan Midtdal and Bruce Gillon. Unable to attend: John Harling.

14 members and guests in attendance.

1. Kim Dodds called the General Meeting to order at 7:10 PM and welcomed the members and guests.
2. Kim introduced the directors and guest speaker.
3. Announcements. - The Second Annual Family fun Day with Grace Baptist Church is on Saturday, June 23rd.
4. Guest Speakers. Kim introduced Garth Letcher, the community Policing Coordinator. Garth introduced Joan, one of the RCMP volunteers. Garth and the 27 Glenmore RCMP volunteers work out of the RCMP Detachment at 350 Doyle Avenue.

There are several volunteer opportunities available: Citizen Patrol [day and night] and Speed Watch [daytime, spring to fall].

Garth has held the civilian position since 2002. Before that he had 29 years experience on the force.

Crime continues due to apathy and denial. Not being bothered to report criminal activity and denying that criminal activity is happening in ones area. We all need to take measures to protect ourselves and our neighbourhood.

The old Neighbourhood Watch programs have or are being converted to the Block watch Program. Garth explained how the Block Watch program works. The RCMP does the labour and administration and provide the tools for the program. Each Block communicates with the Coordinator. The information sent in by a block, depending on the degree of urgency, is passed on to constables on patrol. All information is recorded for statistical purposes. If an incident is not reported to the RCMP, it is not considered to have happened as there is no record of it.

A Block Watch unit consists of four or five homes up to a dozen homes. Each Block has a captain and a co-captain. These two recruit as many homes as possible on their block. The group then enrolls with the Block Watch program. All the people attend a one and a half hour training session. The captain and co-captain need security clearance.

The communication between the Block Watch members and the Block Watch office is mainly by e-mail. The office sends out tips and information on things to watch out for.

When a block has been organized the city will put up Block Watch signs at the ends of the block.

One person has talked with everyone on his block and they are ready to register. A person from another area is ready to convert from Neighbourhood Watch to Block Watch. Two others in a third area are working at signing up people on their block.

The program works on the principle of neighbours looking out for neighbours.

Several people recounted situations of working with friends and neighbours to thwart crime.

5. Refreshments. The meeting recessed for refreshments.
6. Brandt's Creek Clean up. Richard reported that ten people turned out for the Clean up day on Saturday, April 28th. Sixteen bag of garbage were collected. Last year thirteen people collected thirteen bags of garbage.

A big thank you to all of the participants.

Linda noted that she had collected a large bag of plastic milk cartons from the creek. She took them home to clean them up before taking them to the Kirshner Road Recycling Depot so that they would not end up in the landfill. Way to go Linda!

7. Other items. Rush hour traffic on Clifton Road backs up to Ayers Court from the traffic light at High Road. This makes it very difficult for the residents to get in or out.

Problems can be reported to the Kelowna Web site. Use the Service Request button on the home page.

8. Announcements. The city has graffiti removal kits available at the Parks and Recreation office at 105 - 1014 Glenmore Drive, City Hall and the Works Yard. Pick one up. If you notice any graffiti, clean it up with the kit and call the Graffiti Hotline at 250-469-8600.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 by general consent.

Minutes recorded by Bruce Gillon