

**WHO Crime Prevention & Safety Committee
Committee Meeting, February 6, 2007
6:30 p.m. – The Bean Scene**

Present: Mike Tabor, Kathy Godfrey, CPS Tim Hammett

This was the second meeting of the committee. The first meeting on January 16, 2007, was a time to get acquainted and share preliminary thoughts and ideas about the activities of the committee. Mike Tabor was selected at the first meeting as the committee spokesman for the January 18, 2007 WHO block leader/resident meeting, and consequently is acting chair of the committee. Kathy Godfrey acted as secretary for the February 6 meeting.

Discussion centered around the purpose and mission of the committee, block club matters, and the WHO website.

Creation of committee e-mail list:

To facilitate communication among committee members and actions to be taken by the committee, it was decided to have Michelle Lewis create an e-mail group for the committee.

Action required:

- Determine name for the e-mail group (consensus of committee members).
- Tim will generate an updated list of committee members.

Mission statement:

Because of the low attendance, we decided to conduct an e-mail discussion regarding the central focus of the committee and the creation of a mission statement. We agreed that block clubs are foundational in the creation and maintenance of strong neighborhoods and in the promotion of communication on multiple levels. However, we need the input and opinions of more people in order to effectively formulate the focus, direction and activities of the committee.

Action required:

- Tim will e-mail committee members to solicit input and ideas for the mission statement.

Block club matters:

Tim Hammett distributed copies of the Willard-Hay neighborhood map marked to show blocks that have a trained block leader or an active block club. Tim emphasized that there may be other active block clubs, but his list contains only those blocks where a leader has participated in the block leader training conducted by SAFE. If we learn of any block leaders who have not received the training, we should encourage them to contact Tim to arrange for training. The training is instrumental in providing valuable information about the many resources available to assist in the development, maintenance and activities of block clubs.

Action required:

- Mike will prepare presentation of block club map for February 15 WHO block leaders/residents meeting.

We questioned how a block club is defined. Tim said there are typically 2 forms: (1) the houses on both sides of a street, and (2) the houses on both sides of an alley. A club may include only

one block or neighboring blocks. Tim said that as far as the police department is concerned, the borders are defined by the participants. NRRC may define block clubs differently.

Grant money for block clubs:

We understand that grant money is available to block clubs from NRRC, but questioned how to get it and what it can be used for. Answers were not available at the meeting. The committee may be able to propose joint projects for block clubs to utilize some of the grant money, depending on what we learn from NRRC.

Action required:

- Mike will contact NRRC for information about the application process and requirements for block club grant money.

Website:

There are currently two spaces on the WHO website that fall within the parameters of the committee. The first is on the home page and is labeled "Safety and Crime." There is an abundance of information related to crime prevention, reporting and trends, safety issues, community involvement with the Police Department, and other matters related to neighborhood livability issues that could be included in this section of the website.

Action required:

- Kathy will ask Michelle Lewis if there are space limitations on the WHO website.
- Kathy will make a list of possible information and links. The list will be e-mailed to the committee members for feedback before submitting the list to Michelle for inclusion on the website.

The second space can be accessed from the home page by clicking on "Committees." The committee will utilize this space for information specifically related to the work of the committee, such as posting meeting dates, minutes, and e-mail contacts.

Action required:

- The committee will submit appropriate information related to committee activities to Michelle Lewis in a timely manner.

Enhancing communications with police:

The committee briefly discussed how communication could be enhanced between residents and the Police Department. Tim reported that the Minneapolis Police Department and NRRC are in the very early stages of developing neighborhood policing plans. Block clubs can be a vital link in the communication process, for distributing information from the police to residents as well as providing a conduit for residents to voice their concerns. Tim Hammett, as the precinct's Crime Prevention Specialist, is a valuable resource for educating residents about police matters that affect residents and the neighborhood. And, of course, a principal activity of WHO involves facilitating communication on multiple levels.

No specific action required at this time.

Next meeting: March 6, 2007, 6:30 p.m. at The Bean Scene

Minutes submitted by Kathy Godfrey