

GWCA Membership Meeting – Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Parry Carlson stepped in for Larry, who is sick. Parry opened the meeting at 7:30.

Agenda:

- Welcome to all.
- Election: All board members were reelected by the membership.
- Treasurer's Report: Parry reviewed the report with the membership. The complete report is available upon request.
- Beginning in 2017, meetings will begin at 7:00 instead of 7:30. This change was proposed at the September meeting, and following a discussion, it was agreed that GWCA will test this earlier start time.
- Parry reminded everyone of Nextdoor.com. He described it as a blog for the neighborhood. It also connects with nearby neighborhoods. There are currently 655 members in 471 member households out of 999 eligible households. The website is www.Nextdoor.com. Please join if you haven't yet. This is a great tool for keeping in touch regarding many subjects, from reports of crime in the area, to various items for sale, requests for referrals for various contractors, etc.
- Guest Speaker: Captain Keith Curriden of the Fairfax County Fire Department. He was joined by three other FCFD employees. Below is a summary of the very helpful discussion the membership had with the four visitors.
 - Captain Curriden described the Yellow Dot Program. If a citizen has health concerns or essential medications that are useful for medical personnel in an emergency, he or she places the yellow dot sticker on their car. It notifies the FCPD to look in the glove box for important medical information that has been provided on a form.
 - The FCPD will visit your home to check your fire alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and change batteries. Just call them.
 - Escape plans in case of fire: have a meeting place! Discuss an exit strategy!
 - The FCFD is comprised of all paid county employees.
 - Captain Curriden emphasized to the membership to call them if they ever have any questions related to fire safety or anything else that the FCFD is involved with.
 - The most common causes of fires are candles, electrical problems, food left in ovens, and grills too close to the house.
 - Training: six months of training.
 - FCFD coordinates with FCPD.
 - FCFD has seen an increase in drug overdoses. They do carry Narcan, along with about 23 other medications.

Many thanks to the FCFD personnel who visited. It was a great opportunity for a small group discussion that enabled many people to ask questions, and they answered all of them helpfully.

- Parry went over the crime report.
- Contact gwwca.president@gmail.com if you have any questions about GWWCA.
- A few members asked about the status of the Penn Daw Development. The developer switched demolition contractors, resulting in a pause in activity for several months. They expect to resume the demo this month. Per Melissa Lakey, the first phase—some of the townhouses—will be complete in the third quarter of 2017.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00. The guest presenter will be representatives from Combined Properties who will discuss the former Penn Daw Plaza, which will be renamed South Alex.

The meeting closed at 8:35.