

Cheshire Forest Neighborhood Security Committee – meeting no. 2 Minutes -
Wednesday 3rd March 2021 - 6:30pm

Recording of this meeting is in the teams group under 'files' tab.

Members Present:

Chair: Jane McKlveen

Michael McKlveen

Cheryl Griner

Officer Saburn

Jen Bowers

Christopher Bowers

Carrie Fair

Jude Danato

Mitch Gold

Coleen Lively

Aaron Pomeranz

Ali Jones

1. Review previous meeting minutes and approve for publication to our wider HOA membership.

Jane opened the meeting and asked for approval of the last meeting minutes. Not everyone had a chance to read over so we will approve at next meeting.

2. Discussion with Cheryl Griner's CPD contact – Officer Saburn

Jane introduced Officer Saburn. He is Cheryl's contact for Community Watch as he is the Community Resource Officer (1st Precinct). Officer Saburn stated that he knows about our problems with the loitering teens. He explained that he has been in contact with Al Jacobs, our HOA President and former Community Watch lead, for a long time. He also explained because our neighborhood common areas are private property the police need to have permission from us to enforce the rules of those areas. (We have an old authorization form on file, but Cheryl is obtaining a new one for Al to sign.)

Jane said one of the things we do is use the non-emergency number when we see something going on. Jane discussed what happened last week when there was a fight by the pond near the clubhouse with about 40 spectators (looked like a planned "fight club" event). A neighbor on Yorkshire Dr whose backyard has clear view of the pond took pictures and video, text Cheryl and then Cheryl called the police, but the kids were gone when the police officer got there. Cheryl talked to the officer and showed him the pictures and video. He said to call back if the teens show up again. Jane saw them later and Cheryl called the police again. Jane took pictures of the kids and has most of

them identified. Because there was nothing going on any longer, there was nothing the police could do. Officer Saburn explained it would be up to parents to press charges. He told of an incident where he came up to the clubhouse and told the teens to pick up all their trash. He got their names, parents' names and addresses, made a report and emailed the case number to Al. He could not give the names of the kids to Al, but if another incident were to happen shortly after, Al would have the case number he could refer to and then Officer Saburn can talk to those kids again.

Jane asked what can we do when we can identify the kids who are doing something wrong. Officer Saburn said those names would be put into a report and then a detective could talk to those kids. He stated he is a big fan of cameras. When there is video and names it is a big help to the police. Jane said we were working on getting cameras. Officer Saburn said that Crime Prevention can come out and do a survey to give advice on what to do. (someone from Crime Prevention will be contacting Cheryl to set this up.) It was discussed that we would want cameras mainly around the clubhouse, pool, playground and parking lot.

Officer Saburn stated the laws have recently changed in Chesapeake limiting what the police can do. They are trying to patrol more in our area, but the number of officers are limited.

Jane discussed ideas of what we can do ourselves without always calling the police. We discussed possibly changing the loitering rules and/or times allowed to be in the parking lot and surrounding area. Any new rules would need to be posted.

Aaron asked if someone wanted to charge those kids could they get their names? The police could not give names because they are juveniles but could refer to the case number. Jane said she has names of most of the kids involved causing trouble.

Jen referred to the signs regarding "residents only and their guests" and asked who is actually responsible when someone breaks the rules - the parents who are residents? Ideas were discussed about only resident kids being allowed around the clubhouse. Resident parents would not like it if all kids were banned. Jane said if the pool has rules that are not in the HOA docs, then we should be able to have/change rules for the common areas without changing the HOA documents.

Arron suggested a fence around the whole clubhouse area and parking lot. Officer Saburn said a tall fence would not be allowed by city ordinance.

There was discussion about coming up with a way to charge/fine someone who breaks the rules. Michael said usually the parent is going to handle the issue so if you can identify the child and contact the parent it helps. Officer Saburn asked if the board has set fees for violations? Perhaps the bylaws should state more rules that can be fined. Mitch said we must have a certain number of residents in agreement to make changes. Jane feels confident she can get the numbers to make changes. Mitch said we might

be able to make changes and rules for common areas without changing bylaws. He is going to look into this.

Discussion about golf carts came up. Officer Saburn verified that we are not a golf cart community so they are not allowed to be on the roads here.

Cheryl discussed what she had researched about Neighborhood Watches, etc. and that we are doing most of the things that make a neighborhood safer, besides not having cameras. Another thing is that loiters like to use outlets. Chris said the outlets might be on timers. There was discussion on making the wi-fi secure. Chris asked if officers can come to community events like spring parties, or any children's events to get officers involved to build relationships. Officer Saburn replied absolutely.

Chris said there is a device with a high pitch sound that younger people can hear and cannot stand - most older people cannot hear it. Many said they like that idea. It can be turned on an off and could be set up at the stairs of the clubhouse - great idea.

Jude talked about the non-emergency number and that we need to get that number out to the community. (Cheryl will put in newsletter.) Officer Saburn said that kids are very brazen now. They don't respect police say or other adults, but he said when he calls their parents it usually helps. There was discussion on residents taking action and getting parents alerted when possible. Officer Saburn said for incidents like fights the police should be called. There was discussion of having an app with alerts to contact each other.

Officer Saburn said we can hire off duty officers (\$45 per hour) to patrol more or hire a security company. We could get them to patrol at certain hours. Jane knows the hours they would be needed the most. Cheryl thinks this needs to be pursued. Insurance is needed as the off-duty officers would be employees of our HOA. Officer Saburn thinks the security guard route may be cheaper.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 10, 6:30 – 7:30 PM at the clubhouse.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.