





## Neighborhood Block Watch Grant

by Carrie Frazer

The Bel Air Neighborhood Association was recently awarded a 2010 Neighborhood Block Watch Grant by the City of Phoenix Police Department. The Association applied for the \$8,180 grant on behalf of the neighborhood earlier this year. The Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program (NBWGP) provides an opportunity to enhance the safety and the quality of life in our neighborhood and it helps the Association to prevent and solve crime-related problems in our neighborhood.

The NBWGP was created to provide funding to neighborhood groups to undertake new and innovative programs and activities aimed at preventing and reducing crime in the community. The aim and purpose of the Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program are to detect, deter, and/or delay crime. This is done by educating individuals to work together to solve problems, encouraging citizens to develop a sense of ownership for their neighborhoods, developing and addressing common neighborhood goals, coordinating pertinent neighborhood/community meetings, and teaching crime prevention and safety techniques.

With this funding, we are able to continue the efforts of the residents and the Association board to continue to

build a sense of community and prevent and deter crime in our neighborhood. For example, we would be required to have all of the residents pay for the electricity costs for our alley lights. These lights cost over \$4,000 annually.

For the grant award period (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011), funding was provided to meet the following objectives:

- Hold 3 General/Block Watch neighborhood meetings
- Prepare and distribute 6 newsletters per year
- Organize the annual GAIN event
- Funding for the electricity costs for all of our alley lights for one year
- Hold annual neighborhood yard/garage sale
- Organize two semi-annual neighborhood clean-ups
- Continue on-line version of newsletter
- Participate in the Melrose Street Fair in 2011
- Implement a graffiti reporting and removal program

Thank you for your participation in helping us meet the goals of the Neighborhood Block Watch Grant program.

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## Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

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a decision regarding the FY10/11 Block Watch Grant yet. There will most likely be a class in July for Block Watch contacts. Carrie and Mike O. will be on the bank account and will take over this grant program for our neighborhood.

A motion was made to approve up to \$120 from the General Account to be spent for publishing the July/August 2010 newsletter on schedule. The motion was seconded and passed. Local business ad revenue for this issue exceeds \$120.

At the General Meeting, seven neighbors volunteered to become newsletter carriers.

Mike R. made a motion that a copy of the "Fight Back Action Plan" draft be requested from Lisa by Carrie. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Community Report** - Mike O. suggested some sort of tribute be made to the police officer, Travis Murphy, who was killed in the line of duty less than a mile from our neighbor-

hood. It was motioned that up to \$100 be approved for either flowers or a donation to be made to his Memorial fund, children's account, etc. It was seconded and passed. Mike O. will inquire as to what is most appropriate/needed.

Mike R. motioned that all agendas and email by Board Members to other Board Members relating to board business be sent to all Board Members at the same time by using "copy to" when the email is not directed specifically to that(those) Board Member(s). The motion was seconded and passed.

Mike R. motioned that all agendas and email by Board Members to other Board Members relating to board business be archived and published on the internet. There was a discussion regarding the "open meeting law." Mike O. and others asked for a more specific proposal on this subject. Mike R. withdrew his motion.

The Board's next meeting will be on July 26th, at 6:30 PM, was agreed on by all, with a possible change of venue to Lisa's office. August 30th, at 6:30 p.m. was also set.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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#### OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Thurs., May 13 | 4 p.m.-6:30 p.m. |
| Mon., May 24   | 3 p.m.-6:30 p.m. |
| Sat., June 12  | 9 a.m.-12 p.m.   |
| Wed., June 23  | 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. |
| Sat., July 17  | 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. |
| Wed., July 21  | 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. |

Office hours will be extended to 8 a.m. 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6, 13, 20 and 27. If you are unable to attend an Open House, please stop by or call the office to make an appointment for a tour.



## Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

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Meeting was adjourned by Carrie at 9:00 p.m.

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**Date:** July 26, 2010

**Location:** City of Phoenix, Lisa Hubbard's office, 1950 W. Heatherbrae Dr. #6

**Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order by President, Carrie Frazer at 6:37 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Members: Jeanne Greene, Gary Hall, Mike Orth, Mike Radtke, Carrie Frazer, Pamela Wigley, Juanita Soto Ayers, Sharon Bushouse. The neighbors in attendance in addition to the board members: Nicholas Radtke, Carolyn McBane, Glenn Schmitz.

**Minutes:** Pamela read the minutes for the last board meeting of June 7, 2010. Mike R. made a motion that the word "public" be added before the word "draft" in the phrase, "'Fight Back Action Plan' draft". The motion was seconded and passed. The minutes were approved with the correction.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mike O. presented the Treasurer's Report. The general fund had a beginning balance on July 10<sup>th</sup> of \$1,255.23. Business ad income of \$220.00 was re-

ceived. Expenses were: \$112.80 for the printing of the July/Aug. newsletter and a \$100.00 donation to a Memorial Fund for fallen Officer Travis Murphy. The ending balance was \$1,262.43 on July 26th, 2010.

The Bel Air Neighborhood Association has been awarded a 2010 Neighborhood Block Watch Grant by the City of Phoenix Police Department. The Association applied for the \$8,180 grant on behalf of the neighborhood earlier this year. Carrie and Mike O. attended a workshop for the Neighborhood Block Watch Grant Program (NBWGP) on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Mike O. provided all of the board members with a copy of the Grant Authorized Items.

### Fight Back Committees:

Carrie obtained the requested draft copy of the Bel Air Fight Back Action Plan from Lisa Hubbard. Jeanne made a motion to request more information regarding the Bel Air Fight Back Program from Lisa. The motion was seconded and passed.

**A. Community Enhancement:** The past members have either resigned or have not participated in the past several months, except for Carolyn McBane. Jeanne Greene and Juanita Soto Ayers volunteered to co-chair the Community Enhancement Committee. The next General Meeting will be

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## Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

(Continued from page 5)

planned for either September 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. The GAIN Event will be on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Crime Prevention:** The meeting that had been scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> was cancelled. It has not been rescheduled yet.

**C. Preservation:** The three members (including the chairman) have resigned as of the end of June.

**D. Traffic:** The chairman resigned in January.

### Community Reports:

Carrie had been informed by Sheri at the American Evangelical Lutheran Church that the Martin Luther School, which has been located on the church property, will not be open this upcoming fall. It is closing. The church will be attempting to find a business or another school to occupy the property.

Carolyn McBane attended the meeting to report on a few community items. She lives near the American Evangelical Lutheran Church and has concerns about vacant properties, transients, and someone going door-to-door to collect scrap metal. She also reported on the recent incident that involved a group of juveniles setting fires in the neighborhood directly north of our neighborhood. She said they set fire to the Park Lee Apartments, a woman's car, and continued by setting grass fires. Police officers were able to apprehend the kids, ages 11-15, on the other side of the canal. If it hadn't been for the canal and the officers, they would have been able to easily continue their crime spree into our neighborhood.

Juanita reported that neighbors near 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Grand Canal have noticed an increase in traffic in the area.

Carrie reported that our Community Action Officer, Aaron Stevens, forwarded a friendly reminder for everyone to lock their car doors, assure there are NO ITEMS left inside your vehicles in plain sight, and call in absolutely any and all suspicious activity/persons in our neighborhood. Pamela reported that one of their vehicles, a convertible with no top, was parked in front of their house and the stereo was stolen a couple of weeks ago.

**New/Old Business:** Mike R. made a motion to make all of the email between board members regarding "official board business" public by publishing and archiving the emails on the internet. There was a discussion regarding this matter. No one seconded the motion.

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## Fellow Neighbors

There are 3 vacant positions on the board which may be filled by appointment. All that are interested in being on the board should attend the next board meeting. This will be Oct. 4th at 6:30pm at American Evangelical Church, Fireside room, 1830 W. Glenrosa Ave. Any questions, please call either Carrie Frazer at 602-265-4123 or Jeanne Greene at 602-265-5664. Hope to see you then.

## City launches Droid app to report graffiti

Phoenix is the first municipality in the nation to launch a free application that allows residents with Droid phones to point, click and send photos of graffiti, over-height weeds, abandoned shopping carts and other blight violations to Neighborhood Services.

Droid phone users may download the application for free from the Droid Market by searching for the keyword "myphoenix" and then clicking on My Phoenix.

Once installed, users will simply open the application and follow the prompts to take a picture of the violation and then tap "submit." Using built-in global positioning system technology, the application will attach a location to the picture and send the complaint to the Neighborhood Services Department. Residents also can choose an option to receive updates on the status of their request.

The My Phoenix Droid app follows the June launch of an iPhone app, which was enthusiastically received by residents and neighborhood groups, resulting in more than 400 downloads to date. Phoenix has received calls and e-mails from other government agencies around the nation interested in developing their own applications.

Phoenix residents also may continue to report blight to Neighborhood Services by e-mail at [blight@phoenix.gov](mailto:blight@phoenix.gov) and by phone at 602-262-7844.

The Droid and iPhone applications were created at no cost to the city by Graffiti Protective Coatings, a graffiti cleanup company that serves government agencies in Arizona.

Other cities and government agencies from Arizona, California, Texas and Florida have contacted Phoenix for more information about the applications.

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## National Take Back Initiative - Prescription Drugs Disposal Event

On September 25, 2010 the Phoenix Police department along with the Partnership for a Drug Free America - Arizona Affiliate is joining forces with the Drug Enforcement Administration for the National Take Back Initiative. The Police Department will staff nine drop off locations for unwanted medication from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Two of the drop off locations closest to our neighborhood are:

- AZ Dept. of Public Safety, Highway Patrol Metro Headquarters - 2102 W. Encanto Blvd.
- Metro Center Mall - 9617 North Metro Parkway

This one-day effort is intended to bring national focus to the issue of increasing pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse.

- The program is anonymous.
- Prescription and over the counter solid dosage medications, i.e. tablets and capsules accepted.
- Intra-venous solutions, injectables, and needles will not be accepted.
- Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this initiative.

Visit the DEA [website](#) for additional information on the program, as well as a complete list of drop off locations.

## Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

*(Continued from page 6)*

**Next Board Meeting:** August 30, 2010, at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37PM.



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If you would like to, you can choose to cancel your paper newsletter  
delivery during sign up.

However, it is not required.

Alerts may include, but are not limited to,  
reminders about General Meetings, G.A.I.N. meetings,  
Neighborhood Clean-Up Days,  
and Neighborhood Yard Sales.

### Important Phone Numbers

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Emergency  | 911          |
| Crime Stop   | 602-262-6151 |
| Community Update Line  | 602-534-9445 |
| Community Action Officer,<br>Aaron Stevens<br><a href="mailto:aaron.stevens@phoenix.gov">aaron.stevens@phoenix.gov</a> | 602-361-0043 |
| Abandoned Vehicles   |              |
| <i>Private Property</i>  | 262-7844     |
| <i>Streets, Alleys</i>   | 262-6151     |
| Child Safety Seat Info.  | 602-495-5007 |
| Gang Hotline   | 602-534-4264 |
| Graffiti Busters   | 602-495-7014 |
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| Silent Witness   | 602-948-6377 |
| Traffic Complaint Hotline  | 602-534-7733 |
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