

Washingtonian Towns Homeowners Association  
 Monthly Meeting  
 Meeting location: Fields Road Elementary School  
 Thursday, February 1, 2007

Attendees:

Name	Address	Name	Address
David Chung	402 CF	Dean Zuras	22 PW
Douglas Alfaro	905 CF	Eric Carzon	309 CF
Sabrina Rivers	405 WC	Una Brunani	511 WC
Rose Kushneider	602 WC	Richard Mack	108 PW
Lucie Groeger	214 WC	Linda Berg	822 CF
Bob Tucker	610 WC	Terri Wagner	601 WC
Joshua Smeltzer	169 Lamont	Shireen Ambush	Abaris Realty
Debra Axler	404 CF	Rose Marie Forseca	316 WC
Frank Skinner	416 CF	Jim Donato	24 PW

7:05 p.m. Meeting called to order by President J. Smeltzer

**City of Gaithersburg Police Community Crime Watch Presentation:**

Sgt. Scott Scarff from the Gaithersburg Police Department gave a neighborhood crime watch presentation and presented crime statistics. Specifically, Sgt. Scarff noted the following crimes in and around the WTHOA community during 2006:

- 1 burglary
- 8 larceny incidents
- 3 auto thefts
- 12 assaults
- 7 incidents of vandalism
- 6 juvenile offenses
- 21 disorderly conduct
- 146 miscellaneous events

This information can be found at [www.gaithersburgmd.gov/police](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/police).

Sgt. Scarff praised community residents, noting that that the numbers demonstrate that residents in the community are calling the police to report information and suspicious activity in the community. He provided safety and security literature to community residents along with contact phone numbers for the Gaithersburg police, stressing that residents call the non-emergency number to report anything suspicious.

He highlighted that crimes involving cars is the number one crime category across the entire county. Sgt. Scarff stressed the importance of locking vehicles, leaving nothing of value in the car, and recommending that residents park their vehicles near good lighting. Additional safety tips from the City of Gaithersburg Police can be found at

[http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/poi/default.asp?POI\\_ID=369&TOC=107;85;1346;369](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/poi/default.asp?POI_ID=369&TOC=107;85;1346;369);

Sgt. Scarff stressed the importance of calling and being willing to provide one's name and contact information to the police. Additionally, it is critically important for the caller to be willing to serve as a witness and to come to court after reporting an incident so that perpetrators can be held accountable in the court of law.

Lighting in and around the community was brought up as a concern and Sgt. Scarff told the group about photo cells that can be installed on outdoor lighting so that porch lighting comes on and off automatically. Further, he noted that lights and appliances should be put on timers, to help mitigate risks.

#### **Neighborhood Safety & Security Committee:**

J. Smeltzer discussed the formulation of a neighborhood security committee and made a motion to form such a committee. The motion received a second from Frank Skinner and received unanimous approval. The following residents volunteered to be a part of the committee:

- Debbie Axler (Chairperson)
- David Chung
- Dean Zuras
- Joshua Smeltzer
- Jim Donato
- Frank Skinner
- Douglas Alfaro
- Eric Carzon and wife
- Richard Mack
- Linda Berg

#### **Approval of December 2006 meeting minutes:**

The meeting minutes from December 2006 were approved by the Board.

**Business items – (reference February 2007 Abaris Management report):**

Item 8c – the Board noted that evidence of the illegal dumping should be provided if at all possible in order to effect an enforcement action. Abaris will follow up with resident lodging complaint to explain and to inquire about providing evidence.

Item 8d – Waiver of late fee granted. Abaris will send resident letter to notify and note that a one time fee waiver has been approved in accordance with the WTHOA policy

Item 8g – Abaris will follow up with a letter

Item 8h – Board voted not to waive the fine. Abaris will follow up with a letter indicating that the \$500.00 fine is still being levied and that dumping is on a per incident basis and is not based on the amount of trash. The Board noted that this action is equitable for all residents in the community and is an issue of equal enforcement.

**Election of WTHOA Board Officers:**

The following individuals were elected to serve on the Board of Directors for 2007:

1. President – Dean Zuras
2. Vice-president – David Chung
3. Treasury – Jim Donato
4. Secretary – Frank Skinner
5. At-large – J. Smeltzer

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the home of Dean Zuras

8:30 p.m. meeting adjourned