

Present: John Lahti, Bill Mahoney, Karin Richard, Nikki Lundin, Susan Minogue, Kevin O'Doherty, Kim Herber, Marty Liebowitz, Michael Smith, Scott Davis, Sgt. Williams, James Walker, Jason Cook, Barney Mansavage, Holly Smith, Stacey Kryman, Coe Roberts, Llew Roberts, Rouette Snyder, James Snyder, Beth Gappert, Francisco Tello (SPD Crime Prevention), Lt. Calder, Deirdre McCrary [partial list]

Criminal Activity in Madrona: Francisco Tello ([francisco.tello@seattle.gov](mailto:francisco.tello@seattle.gov) 206-684-4730) provided statistics, tips, and reference material for securing houses against burglars. In the two months since September there have been 22 burglaries in Madrona, and 7 of them were non-forced entry. He emphasized the need for citizens to act on suspicious activity by calling 911 and getting together with neighbors to share information. The 911 operator doesn't dispatch help but rather relays the call to the police. Be prepared to answer the operator's questions. Choose 911 to call first, and they'll switch your call if it's a non-emergency, or you can call back and cancel a call. Alarm systems offer some preventive protection (information included in his handouts), and keeping desirable items out of sight can also avert a break-in. Make certain doors and windows are locked. Popular modes of operation for burglars are knocking at the door to establish whether someone is home, asking about a lost pet or ball, or pretending to be a salesperson. The City regulates salespeople with specific requirements, so that homeowners can establish the veracity of such people.

Lt. Calder, representing the whole East Precinct (two sectors divide at Union), summarized the common threads among burglaries--they generally happen from 6 am to 6 pm and force entry. There is a 911 report map on the City website that allows people to see where criminal activity is happening anywhere in the city. Queen Anne and downtown have been hit harder than we have this year.

All reports from citizens go through Lt. Williams, who emphasized the need to be a keen observer of people and their behaviors. Figure out ways to retain observed information for later reporting--remember and describe from the top down, look people in the face, and make a visual scan. Don't be engrossed in your phone as you walk. Don't handle any items that might contain fingerprints or fluids of the perpetrator. Practice describing people with quick observation--maybe compare him/her to yourself--even take a photo, but stay safe and call quickly with description, location, and direction suspect headed. Report car license numbers. Keep a good inventory of valuables with photos to document. Currently the police have six people, some juveniles and some adults, under suspicion for recent crimes in Madrona, but the police need to build a strong case. Lt. Williams urged citizens to use the business cards each officer provided to call with any observations of suspicious activity. One of the suspects might be willing to cooperate with police in exchange for a reduced sentence, and such cooperation could lead to closing many cases and recovering additional stolen property. Police need reasonable suspicion to stop anyone, so calling 911 is important to creating reasonable suspicion, but probable cause is needed to prosecute.

Francisco will let Susan know when some of the suspects currently under investigation have been arrested.

One listener suggested that crimes be reported in the newsletter in the same format as is used in Madison Park's newspaper in order to increase spread of information and make the neighborhood less inviting for criminals. Holly pointed out that Barbara Parker produces the newsletter by herself, so that she would need a volunteer to put that information together and submit it to Barbara, as she can't add to what she already does.

Richard Wells, Neighborhood Organizer with Community Power Works (Seattle city program) and Sustainable Seattle, a non-profit company. Community Power Works is a stimulus-funded, \$20 million program to remove barriers to having houses made more energy efficient. They are looking specifically for pre-1960 houses because those would have been built without environmental regulations regarding insulation and heating. A \$95 audit (subsidized from \$400) takes about 4 to 6 hours and includes assessment of insulation, furnace, windows, lighting, etc. The homeowner then receives a menu with the results, an energy-performance score, the costs to retrofit, and approved contractors to do the work. Four hundred households have signed up since April for the audit. A general contractor can do the audit, the analysis, and the retrofitting. Some individual contractors can be hired to do individual jobs, or the homeowner can do the work. Doing the audit does not compel the homeowner to do any of the suggested work, but there are incentives to encourage people to make the improvements--bundling of projects through contractors, low and no-interest loans that can be paid back through one's energy bill, in which an effort will be made to balance the payment so that it is no more than the amount being saved by the changes. The hope is to sign up 2,000 homes in the next two years. Sustainable Works has until June to spend its stimulus funds; City of Seattle has until 2013. Eventually legislation will require realtors to provide the kind of energy information that comes through the audit with each sale.

Streetscape Plan for 34th: Holly reviewed the current plan, discussed at the October MCC meeting, to remove all street trees where the planting area is too narrow to accommodate a tree. The planting spaces will be filled with shrubs that are drought-resistant. Sarah Lessing(?) will start a committee for the purpose of having a say in the design of the replacement for existing planting strips and sidewalks. SDOT has invited the neighborhood to influence how the result will look. Funds are available to use professionals with expertise to help us create a plan. An arborist will help with ideas, but current information is that no trees would be appropriate replacements for the existing Norway maples [an invasive species, by the way, often planted as street trees, that has been troublesome in Madrona Woods]. We need a master plan, perhaps like what Ballard accomplished on a larger scale. Liz Ellis at SDOT would have the name of the person who worked with SDOT in Ballard. Some people at the previous meeting were interested in being on the committee. Liz Ellis can help spearhead a series of grants to take out existing trees, replant with something appropriate, and repave. Kevin suggested focusing on the business district with the grants, with the community setting the priorities through a phased master plan. Kevin O'Doherty and Marty Liebowitz will work with Sarah on the committee.

MCC Officer Elections: Bill Mahoney ran the elections, since Holly is running for president, Susan for vice-president, Casey for treasurer, Stacey for vice-president for events, and Deirdre for secretary. All present favored the slate of candidates; no one opposed them or abstained.

Wine Tasting: Pre-sales are sold out (90 tickets). Door sales can add 60 (?) more. Holly suggested acquiring a hand-counter to keep track of entrants. Stacey will get it (them?). Sales of Glassy Babies that night will benefit Madrona K-8; ticket sales benefit MCC.

Board Members' Contact Information for Website: Board members agreed to put their names, phone numbers, and email information on the website. We put the information on a list, which Susan has and will get to Barbara.

General Discussion of Fund Raising and Marketing for MCC:

Consensus was to get through Saturday's event first before making future fund-raising plans. Stacey reported a good turn-out for Halloween festivities and it would have been a good opportunity to advertise MCC and increase recognition of what we do by having a banner or signs and maybe opportunity to donate. A banner to use at all events would be a useful addition. Kim suggested name tags for those MCC folks working at the wine tasting. Stacey will procure the name tags.

Kevin raised the possibility of reviving the homes tour as a fund raiser.

Besides the Glassy-Baby benefit for Madrona K-8, what can the council do as a discrete project to help the school in the most useful way?

- Work in the library: Librarian is new and is assessing current needs.
- Saturday, Nov. 5, 10 am: work party for the garden and playground, all welcome
- Book Fair, Saturday, Dec. 10, 9 to ? People can buy Scholastic books at less than retail or buy a gift certificate for teachers to get books.
- New Music Program Needs Equipment: Barney will also get an extensive list of various ways the school would like help from MCC.

Karin explained that Barbara Parker has visited the school and familiarized herself with it and its issues. We discussed whether we should earmark any gifts for specific needs or make a general gift. We agreed that we would be more successful funding a specific need. Karin pointed out the great need for simple housekeeping items like uniform pieces (shirt, khaki pants) and socks, shoes, and jackets. Used books are also collected, not for the library, but rather for children to take home. The idea of sponsoring a Madrona student was put forward. Could we use one of our events as a draw to support individual kids? Teachers could put needs on our website, either needs for classroom or a specific student. We could ask for a given amount--\$20, for example, to fund a uniform. Stacey thinks attendees at Halloween festivities would have been willing to donate to such a cause.

Karin suggested that there is a similar need among children in the larger community. Perhaps we could target various groups besides Madrona K-8 with each effort. She also invited families to an Open Gym on Sunday, where the school principal will be in attendance. [I think there is an event on Dec. 6 at the shelter house ... but I zoned out. Sorry]

Christmas Ships: Parks does the bonfire. Our time is 9:20 on December 3. Previously we have offered hot chocolate and marshmallows. Kim recalled that past events haven't always been organized--people can bring their own hot chocolate, song sheets, food. Starbucks has donated in the past and might again. It's a chance for visibility for MCC. Estimate is 200 people attending.

Brass Rings Report: Kim reports that the City has approved the permit and the project is going ahead. BOOM is having a Christmas shopping event and ribbon cutting on Saturday morning, December 3. MCC could have a presence there, which we could organize through email.

Peaceable Kingdom Sign by Grocery Outlet is missing. What to do? Would Grocery Outlet be willing to fund a replacement?

Jason reported that Microsoft will be donating to MCC for his time working for the council at a rate of \$17/hour.

Adjourned at 9 pm.

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary