

Baker West Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Minutes
10/2/08

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm by Kurt Schumacher.

Attendance: 15 residents; Sponsors (Sylvia & Greg Broiles); Reporter; Kelly Lipton from Home Consignment Store in El Paseo.

- Need 10 non-board residents for quorum, only had 5. Could not go over bylaws or nominations this meeting.

Attendance History given by Kurt Schumacher:

- General Meeting attendance has been sliding since 1st meeting in 10/07.
- Encourage residents to invite people to meetings.
- Will finding good speakers or better advertising affect attendance numbers?
- Most events getting good attendance.
- Showed slide of membership numbers based on street.
- 3 new members in attendance tonight.

Message from Sponsor given by Sylvia & Greg Broiles, Legacy Planning Law Group:

- Grew up on Elmgrove Ln.
- Estate planning; estate administration; elder law/medi-cal; tax planning; living trust planning; review existing estate plans; planning for nursing home care/asset protection; IRA trust planning
- Reliable and take the time to listen and find out specific needs
- Location: Stevens Creek, near Kiely Blvd.
- Contact Info: (408)244-5754; website: www.lplawgroup.com; e-mail: info@lplawgroup.com

Brainstorming of 2009 Goals led by Kurt Schumacher:

- With small group, went around and asked each individual how they felt about BWNA and to offer suggestions, comments.
- Comments from residents:
 - Make a challenge to have everyone bring a new member.
 - Would like to see BWNA continue.

- We have something good, need to get to great. Need a focused direction. No more discussions, narrow down a plan of action and carry out.
- Not sure about coming. Stay away from using the word "fight" (El Paseo issues, city/store owners). Will never win these things.
- Building bridges in neighborhood. Bringing people together, feel more connected, relate to different generations. Activities & communications that touch all households. Yahoo group, meetings, activities, playgroups, helping people, variety of events held at a variety of times are all good ideas. Have an association that knows, connects, and hears what people need.
- Some activities can't happen due to cost/funding.
- General meeting attendance low, but events are big. Are meetings necessary? Do they give a grey cloud to the status of the group? Yahoo groups is successful.
- While passing out flyers, run across busy families that can't do the meetings, but love the feeling of being safer and having activities for the kids.
- Have an activity at the meetings to draw members out. Seek company donations.
- Police representatives positive influence on meetings.
- Set up game night: bridge, poker, etc.
- Offer babysitting for meetings?
- Can feel discouraging at times, but hopeful.
- Change bylaws, definition of quorum, use something other than Robert's Rules of Order for meeting format.

Treasurer's Report given by Ron Marfil:

- Reviewed financial activity since last meeting.
- Ron is available to meet with anyone who would like to review account.
- CAP grant was increased to \$2150. The submitted budget changes for the CAP grant were approved by the city.
- Checks written to Ron or Kurt go through all officers.
- Officers vote on large expenditures.

- Volunteer hours need to be recorded throughout the year for the mid-year reports that must be submitted as a CAP Grant requirement.

Membership Committee Report given by Michelle Mapes:

- New street leader added to Colusa.
- Make effort to introduce yourselves to new neighbors, give info about BWNA.

Community Relations Committee Update given by Kurt Schumacher:

- Currently there is no Community Relations Committee since there is no one that has volunteered to be leader.
- Original focus of committee: directory, Constant Conduit, and El Paseo connection.

Events Committee Update given by Katie Taylor:

- Katie Taylor currently leading events committee.
- Halloween Parade & Pinata scheduled for 10/25/08 @ 10:00am.
- Pizza My Heart Fundraiser scheduled for 11/10/08 from 11:00am-10:00pm. 30% will be donated back to BWNA.
- Dumpster Day scheduled for 11/22/08.
- Holiday Party will be on 12/13, from 10am-12pm @ Moreland-West Community Center.
- Toy/Food Drive going on now through 12/15.
- Best Decorated House contest will once again be held this holiday season.

Community Service Update given by Kurt Schumacher:

- No Community Service Committee until there is a leader for committee.

Neighborhood Watch Update given by Carol Carter:

- City/police departments have person to conduct Neighborhood Watch meetings. Our representative has some health issues going on right now, making it hard to reach her and get timely return to questions and scheduling.
- Need a host w/indoor space for 10-20 people for Neighborhood Watch meeting.

- Minimum of 10 households needed to hold meeting. Recommends sending out at least 20 flyers.
- Needs neighbors that are clustered together, have a visual connection to each other.
- Children are not allowed.
- Meetings are a way to deliver information on how to make our homes secure and assist in being more vigilant.
- Contacting people this month, hope to have presentation in the Dec/Jan time frame.
- Will go door-to-door with flyer and try for personal contact to get more people at meeting.
- Working on renewing the Safety Committee's mission over the next 6 months.

Communications Committee Update given by Kurt Schumacher:

- Lawn signs and banner have been purchased.

Volunteers Needed:

- Street Leader for Northlawn; Santa Imposter for 12/13 Holiday Party; Sign Maker for Holiday Lights Competition.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm.

Minutes Submitted by Secretary, Katie Taylor.