

W P H A M O N T H L Y B O A R D M E E T I N G, N O V E M B E R 4, 2 0 1 4  
At Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church, 74th Street and Ward Parkway

Board members present: President Frank Haar, Vice President Alison Baker, Treasurer Gaye Tillotson, Secretary Jon Rand, Maureen Hardy, Laura Lavalley, Laura Lynch, Aaron Schwartz, and Carol Gould. Also present were security chief Detective Brent Parsons, webmaster Julie Wittman and resident Linda Hollett.

Mr. Haar called the meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

Ms. Hollett recalled problems with crime at her Ward Parkway home about 15 years ago, but said she has not encouraged problems in recent years. She said she would prefer that security cars be marked. Detective Parsons replied that his officers usually drive Kansas City Police Department cars.

Ms. Hollett raised the issue of whether it was helpful to have outside lighting. Det. Parsons assured her that in an urban area a home's security is enhanced by outside lighting.

Mr. Rand reported that in monthly community policing meetings hosted by Metro Patrol, the WPHA boundaries consistently have fewer crimes than surrounding neighborhoods.

Minutes were approved for September and October.

The incumbent slate of board members was unanimously approved.

Det. Parsons reported calling the supervisor of the communications unit and asked about the refusal of a 911 call taker to respond to complaints about aggressive solicitors. He also emailed the captain of the unit and was told that everybody should know it is department policy to respond to these calls.

Ms. Gould said she called 911 to report a neighbor who had a large fire burning leaves in his backyard, but was rebuffed. Det. Parsons said he knew of no city ordinance prohibiting burning of leaves.

He added that there is no reason to avoid calling 911 because it's a service to taxpayers and the police have a priority system, whereby the most serious crimes receive the highest priority. He reiterated that it is never a nuisance to police when residents phone 911.

Ms. Tillotson reported receiving membership dues of \$10,605 from 305 homes and \$10,670 for security dues from 217 houses. She added that we need 480 security members to break even on our patrol. Mr. Haar said we stand \$3,000 to \$4,000 short of meeting our annual budget and asked whether we should make up the shortfall.

by using surplus funds or or try a second dues mailing. Ms. Tillotson reported a bank balance of \$42,287.55.

Ms. Baker suggested posting membership dues forms on eNeighbors and Facebook to remind homeowners who have not paid their dues.

Ms. Gould determined her inventory of welcome kits would be sufficient until early 2015.

Ms. Baker reminded the board that the Holiday Homes contest would be held the second weekend in December and that last year's winners have agreed to serve as judges. Ms. Baker set the caroling for December 21.

Ms. Wittman gave an update on website construction. She said the old domain name had lapsed and was being replaced by [wardparkwayhomes.com](http://wardparkwayhomes.com) or [wardparkwayhomes.org](http://wardparkwayhomes.org). She also said that a gmail account was being set up for residents to contact the site.

It was agreed to publish the winter newsletter the weekend before Thanksgiving to promote holiday events.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.