

Angus Valley Area Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2009

Milwood Library

I. Call to order

John Baylor called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Board members in attendance: John Baylor, Bob Zane, Jim Lorance, Stacey Peterson, John Bramlett, David Brown, Marissa Little, A.V. Ootsey, Chuck Pace, Judy Poole, and Gaye Thompson. Angus Valley residents also in attendance: Bill Woleben, Joe Zygarlenski, Karen Flanagan, Jane Bramlett, Hugh and Sheri Williamson.

II. Review of minutes

The minutes of February 11, 2009 were approved as corrected.

III. Finance Report

Jim Lorance presented the treasurer's report. Income this period was 20 cents (interest income). Expenses were \$120.10 (Newsletter's Printing Cost). The association has a cash balance of \$1,605.40 and a written financial report was filed with the minutes.

IV. Committee Reports

- Traffic & Safety - Chuck Pace reported that for the period 2/11/09 - 3/10/09 there were eight (8) criminal incidents that generated reports in the Section 8 apartments:

- 1 assaults with family violence
- 1 assault with injury
- 1 auto theft
- 2 family disturbances
- 1 harassment
- 2 theft of services

Five (5) incidents for the rest of Angus Valley:

- 1 disturbance on Deer Track
- 4 burglaries of residences on Sage Hen Ct., Mustang Chase, Saddle Dr., & Duval Road (the last three happened on Monday, 2/23/09).

Chuck reported that three burglaries occurring on one day is noteworthy as we have had no residential burglaries in the larger Angus Valley area over the past 18 months and only 6 in the Section 8 apartments and 2 on Duval Road during that same time period. Chuck also pointed out that in the past 18 months there have been more car burglaries in Angus Valley than in the Section 8 apartments or on Duval Road. He reported that the City of Austin has reorganized the Northwest Area Command to cover everything from Mansfield Dam to Metric and Avery Ranch to Far West making it the largest command in the City (over 50 square miles). Chuck noted that many residents had complained that the word of the burglaries had not gotten out quickly enough so he explained that there is a 48 hour lag before crimes appear on the Police Departments website.

- Communications - Yahoo Group – There was a general discussion about the way information is disseminated in Angus Valley and Chuck Pace explained that many residents had complained about receiving multiple notices of the same incidents. The board agreed that we needed to find a way to get messages out to the neighborhood immediately and also to reduce redundancy. Gaye Thompson made a motion that we change the setting on the AVANA Yahoo group to allow open access so that any member can post messages directly to it. Judy Poole seconded the motion and it passed. John Bramlett will remain the moderator of the group and will monitor it to block anyone who makes inappropriate postings. He also agreed to send out a notice alerting residents that they could change their personal settings to the “view on web only” option if they felt they were receiving too many Yahoo emails.

Karen Flanagan, Coordinator of the Valley Oaks and More Neighborhood Association (a subset of AVANA) spoke about how she receives a large amount of paper mail and many electronic messages each week from the City of Austin. Karen described how she posts any electronic messages that might be of interest to her neighbors on their Yahoo group. Zoe Zygarlenski suggested that the Principal at Will Davis Elementary be added to our group so he could also post important events such as recent occasions when the school was locked-down.

- Website - Marissa Little explained how after the last meeting she had explored the idea of AVANA’s using a paid-for hosting in order to increase our website’s functionality and storage capability. While looking into this, Marissa found that the “Angusvalley.org” domain name was available and purchased it with the intent of donating a year’s service to the association which for \$75 includes the domain name, the website, and the hosting. Marissa moved that our current website, keeping the same look and features, be moved over to the “Angusvalley.org” address and that traffic be redirected there from “main.org/AVANA.” Gaye Thompson seconded the motion and it passed. Bill Woleben who had been hosting our website on his own server agreed to continue being the webmaster, and Joe Zygarlenski suggested that AVANA consider allowing himself or other local businesses to “sponsor” the website in future years.

V. Correspondence -

Walk Like MADD – John Baylor presented a letter dated March 5, 2009, from Mothers Against Drunk Driving inviting participation in their 3rd Annual Walk Like MADD 5K walk scheduled for May 2 at Old Settler’s Park in Round Rock.

Goodwill Donation Drive – John Baylor presented a letter dated March 11, 2009, from Goodwill Industries of Central Texas announcing their donation drive scheduled for April 16 – 19.

Austin Police Department’s Commanders Forum – John presented a note announcing the upcoming NW Forum which has been relocated to the Northwest Fellowship Church, 13427 Pond Springs Rd., on March 31 at 7:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*Submitted by Stacey Peterson, Secretary
Date Approved: May 13, 2009*