

"Your link to a better neighborhood"

Clearwater

Neighborhoods

Coalition

NEWSLETTER

Volume 29

Issue 7

October 5, 2008

Next Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition Meeting

Monday—October 6th, 2008

7:00 PM– 8:30PM

>>Salvation Army– Joy Center<<

1521 Druid Road East

THE PURPOSE OF THE COALITION

The Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition has been part of the community since 1981, and its ongoing purpose is to provide a forum for neighborhood associations to voice their concerns about neighborhood issues and to use our combined resources to address those issues effectively.

September events @ Coachman Park

10/11/08 Q105 Concert

10/12/08 Hispanic Heritage Festival

10/16 thru 10/19 Clearwater Jazz Holiday

Boo Bash @ Brighthouse Field—Friday October 31st. 5:30PM to 8:30PM

Free. This is a safe Halloween community event. Last year over 6,000 attended. Games and interactive areas for children and a "Haunted house".

Reader's can sign up for newsletter access by going to www.clearwatercoalition.com and that they can be notified automatically by sending an email to clearwater@newpobox.com with their name, email address and affiliation, requesting they be added to the CNC listserv or call **Dave Campbell at (727) 725-1276**

A neighborhood is not simply a multitude of homes, it is a place that as a whole we identify as home.

P.O. Box 8204, Clearwater, FL 33758-8204

Web Page: www.clearwatercoalition.com

Email: Clearwater@newpobox.com

**Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2008**

Meeting called to order by President, Shelley Kuroghlian at 7:05 PM.

Members present: Ron Delp, Clearwater Beach; JoAnna Siskin, Skycrest; Shelley Kuroghlian, Spring Lake; Ric Ortega, Sunset-Highland Julie Thompson, Glen Oaks; Larry Floyd, Coachman Ridge and; Doug Williams, Northwood West & Ron Wright, Tropic Hills Guests present: John Doran & George Cretkos City Council; Jennifer Bass, Clearwater Neighborhood Services; Howard Warshauer, Clearwater Downtown Partnership; Isay Gulley; Officer Brian Munoz & Sgt. David Young, CPD.

President's Report

Shelley Kuroghlian reported that she attended the preview of the Watersedge Project. At the preview a four person panel discussed the different elements that help in the revitalization of downtowns. She also reported that there was a great new restaurant in the East Gateway called the Greek Towne Grill.

Secretary Report

Motion by Doug Williams, 2nd by Ron Delp to approve minutes as presented. Approved. Shelley Kuroghlian again asked that members please print copies of the agenda each month from the website to save printing costs.

Treasurer's Report

Doug Williams presented the balance sheet and updated the members on new payments:

CNC Foundation

Balance

Doug encouraged all members, who haven't done so, to send their dues for 2008. Motion to accept Treasurers report by Larry Floyd 2nd by JoAnna Siskin. Approved.

SPEAKERS

Jennifer Bass from Neighborhood Services spoke about three important events and their dates.

The CAN program awards picnic is October 11th at the Countryside Recreation Center from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Winning Neighborhoods will receive their awards, and all neighborhoods are invited to attend. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to share, and drinks and hot dogs will be provided.

Jennifer also told CNC membership that the City has adopted a Neighborhood Bill of Rights. Clearwater neighborhoods may go in person to Neighborhood Services or on line to the City Website to register their neighborhoods for the Bill of Rights

We were also informed that Clearwater Neighborhood's week would be March 9th through the 14th, 2009, with Neighborhoods day being March 14th.

Officer Brian Munoz gave a presentation on gang activity in the City of Clearwater. He helped CNC membership better understand the influence of gangs in the high school and middle schools as well as the challenges facing parents and the community at large. What appeared to many of us as innocent graffiti we can now identify as gang activity. He encouraged our members to report gang activity to CPD so that it can be recorded. Gang activity occurs throughout the city, but areas such as the East Gateway have a heavier concentration.

Sgt. David Young also attended the meeting and helped field questions after the presentation.

During this presentation CNC learned that gang activity in the public schools is being under-reported by school Administrators to the police. The formula used to grade schools penalizes them for reporting this activity. CNC will be taking a position on the under reporting, asking that the formula used to grade schools be changed so that Administrators can feel free to report this activity without fear of being penalized for doing so.

COORDINATOR REPORTS

Code Enforcement

Ric Ortega reported that CNC executive board along with Russ Gable meet with Jeff Kronschnl Dan Bates, and an individual from the City IT department to go over a report on items/ideas to help make the portion of the City of Clearwater website used for reporting code violations a little more user friendly. The meeting went very well, and was a great example of the CNC partnering with city staff.

Community Development Board

No Report

Membership Committee

JoAnna Siskin reported that she contacted Neighborhood Services and got their most current list of Neighborhoods. CNC will be contacting those on the list inviting them to attend CNC meetings and join the Coalition. Shelley reinforced that all members need to take part in this and will be asked to share in contacting the neighborhoods on the list.

Parks and Recreation

No report

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber has a new president and they are putting on the Taste of Clearwater Sept. 17th,2008. Fifty-one Restaurants will be participating.

Environment / Downtown Development

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NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

Ric Ortega noted that one of the homes in his neighborhood was recognized as home of the Quarter.

OLD BUSINESS

JoAnna Siskin reported that the City sponsored a back to School event for the East Gateway at Glen Oaks park. They handed out 100 backpacks with school supplies to the children from that area. Around 300 people attended the event which also featured a drum circle, Mexican Folk Dances, and a mini soccer clinic. Picnic food was provided by the city as well.

She also reported that the City Council approved funding for two police officers dedicated specifically to the East Gateway.

President Shelley brought up the subject of the Coalition taking on a project in the East Gateway to support that neighborhood transition upward. After much discussion Norma made the motion that we look into a project for the East Gateway to be discussed at the next meeting. Ric seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a brief discussion on the possibility of having a more pictorial website.

Doug Williams made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Larry Floyd Approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnna Siskin, Secretary

16th Annual Studio Waltz to Showcase Local Artists

Location: Various locations. Maps can be found at Clearwater Libraries.earwater Main Library, 100 N. Osceola Ave.

Time: 10:00 AM to 4:00PM

Contact: Elizabeth Minorat 727-562-4814

Description: Art enthusiasts and collector's are welcome to take this self guided tour of area artist's studios at this years North Pinellas Studio Waltz



Your VOICE is important to the Coalition.

We need to hear your concerns as well as suggestions and ideas for solutions on the issues that affect your neighborhoods.



Change in Association Officers Notification Please forward names of new officers for your association to JoAnna Siskin, CNC Secretary at siskinj@aol.com.

Please send comments, opinions, and suggestions regarding the **Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition** to P.O. Box 8204, Clearwater, FL 33758-8204 **or please contact an officer.**

2008 Officers

Shelley Kuroghlian	President	727-736-0154	Spring Lake
Ric Ortega	Vice President	727-938-2835	Sunset-Highland
JoAnna Siskin	Secretary	727-442-0096	Skycrest
Doug Williams	Treasurer	727-725-3345	Northwood West

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