



La Loma

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

La Loma Neighborhood Association Meeting
May 31, 2007 – East La Loma Park
Meeting Minutes

Meeting was started by Mike Moradian, Board President, 6:15 pm.

“CREATING A SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD” - ACCOMPLISHMENTS / HIGHLIGHTS

LLNA NEWSLETTER

- Recognized that the newsletter is a vital communication tool
- Thank you to Jerry Frad for helping to write the newsletter each month
- Thank you for all the sponsors for advertising; helps cut down on costs
- Thank you to all newsletter carriers – distributing to 2400 homes each month; all carriers will receive a LLNA t-shirt

N.E.A.T. PROGRAM

- Acknowledgement of Jerry Frad for coordinating the N.E.A.T. Program
- Special thank you to residents for “adopting” particular LLNA areas, such as “The Trail,” Moran Estates and the East La Loma Park entrance.
- LLNA has received \$25,000 from the City of Modesto towards play equipment for Moran Estates Park

BEAUTIFICATION

- George Rogers Park, Airport Neighborhood – planting day; helping neighbors outside the neighborhood
- La Loma Junior High School – supported their 50th Anniversary; planting and helped purchase 50th Anniversary banner
- La Loma Roundabout – received grant from City of Modesto for replanting; roundabout cleanup the last four Saturdays in June; sign-ups available now
- Mike personally designed a street map highlighting the areas needing repair; Public Works Department has a copy

LLNA BOARD

- Thank you to the LLNA Board members for their participation. The Board is a “working” Board

DONATIONS

- Reminder that the LLNA is a not-for-profit organization; donations are gladly accepted and greatly appreciated

GUEST SPEAKER – Will O’Bryant, City Councilmember

- Elected to the City Council in March 2002; Councilmember O’Bryant is a retired detective with the Alameda County Sheriff’s Department
- Chair of the Safety Committee, which he has served on the last 5 years (he and two other Councilmen are on the Safety Committee); Safety Committee accomplishments include the permit process for drinking in the park and the panhandling ordinance; current issues – dumpster diving; homeless rummaging through the trash
- Safety Committee meets 1st Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. Contact Kathy (571-5169) to submit ideas / issues for the agenda.
- Contact Councilmember O’Bryant at wobryant@modestogov.com.
- Encourages citizens to participate in our community
- Next Safety Committee meeting is July 2, 2007 (June meeting has been cancelled)

GUEST SPEAKER – Chief Roy Wasden, Modesto Police Department

- Praised LLNA for all of our efforts! Statistics show a reduction in crime in the LLNA area, while at the same time there was a 2% increase throughout the rest of the city
- Praised Mike Moradian for all of his hard work and dedication to the LLNA
- Emphasized the importance of reporting crime; don’t become discouraged if you don’t get an immediate response
- Important to notify police of vacant homes in the area
- Pay attention ... be involved ... put up signs ... call police!
- Briefly spoke on future Tower Park closure; homeless issue is a very broad issue and the City is working with the support agencies serving the homeless population to discuss other ideas (i.e. free meal distribution at the park, etc). Contact Officer John Habermehl for more info (342-9100, ext. 24153).
- Discussed the importance of using the non-emergency number for non-emergencies (552-2470); call 911 if you see a crime clearly in progress (weapons involved, someone in danger, etc)
- For suspicious vehicles, make record of the license plate, car description, model, etc., and call the non-emergency number
- If no one responds, contact the Modesto Police Department to find out why
- Chief Roy Wasden (765-2443); wasden@modestopd.com
- Direct all traffic related questions to Captain Joel Broumas
- Cautioned against the use of illegal fireworks on the 4th of July; 8-10 officers will be on fireworks patrol; \$750 fine
- Shared his frustrations with Prop 36 – there are over 3,000 criminally involved addicts in our community
- (18) new police officers starting work in 4 weeks; no ride alongs until their training is complete (Fall 2007)
- Disneyland effect ... people behave better when that’s what expected of them!

GUEST SPEAKER – Captain Broumas, Modesto Police Department

- Looking into having officers in the “neighborhood,” similar to the airport district
- Important to have “ownership” of the neighborhood

GUEST SPEAKER – Bronda Smith, Crime Prevention Specialist, Southeast Area, Modesto Police Department

- Encouraged neighbors to get involved with Neighborhood Watch
- Praised the efforts of the LLNA
- June 30th – City of Modesto 16th Annual Neighborhood Watch Coordinator’s Picnic (Graceada Park, 11 – 2 pm)
- August 7th – National Night Out

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH – Dane Anderson, Chairperson

- Chief Roy Wasden has formed an Advisory Board. The LLNA has a seat on the Board, with either Mike or Dane attending. These meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month, immediately preceding our Neighborhood Watch Committee meetings.
- The Neighborhood Watch Committee will meet every 3rd Wednesday, 7 – 8:30 pm, at the La Loma Grace Church, during the months of March – October.
- Working on having either Bronda Smith or one of the Modesto Police Officers attend our Neighborhood Watch Committee meetings.
- **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ... THIS YEAR’S FOCUS!!!! August 7th – Modesto #1 in 2006**
- Mike Moradian went on a “ride-along” with Modesto Police and discovered that we do not have an assigned beat officer as once thought. Officers rotate areas and are assigned their beat each shift change. Mike is working with Modesto Police to see if we can make some changes with this so that we have specific officers assigned to our area that we can get to know and they can become more familiar with our neighborhood.
- Still NEED Neighborhood Watch Coordinators & Street Captains
- Neighborhood Watch Coordinators – goal is for each Coordinator to get in contact with those who have expressed an interest by August 1st. Recruit those who showed an interest into being a Street Captain. Develop a phone tree (name, address, phone, e-mail).
- Street Captains – goal is for Street Captains to get their neighbors together monthly to discuss Neighborhood Watch.
- The “key” is to “befriend” your neighbor ... get to know each other!
- **Neighborhood Watch signs** – signs have already been placed on / around the perimeter and access points of the La Loma area. Signs have been custom designed to include the LLNA logo, and are being made available to LLNA residents to purchase for \$25. Each Coordinator will receive a sign tonight to place at a location of their choosing (within the specifications of the MPD). To post a sign, contact Bronda Smith at M.P.D., make arrangements to give her your sign, informing her of where you are requesting placement, and then follow-up with her if the sign is not up within (2) weeks.

IDEA - ENHANCING NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH & MODESTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Security Patrol - Mike has been researching alarm companies to see if the LLNA can work collaboratively with them to provide better security in our area. Possibilities include having a security unit patrol the LLNA if enough association members sign on. Other possibilities include tying in local businesses to offset some of the costs involved.;
- Per figures provided by Al’s Safe & Lock, minimum of 600 homes paying \$17/each to have a patrol car
- Homes already alarmed would need to designate the patrol company as their “first responder” to an alarm at their home
- Will be forming an Advisory Committee to more this forward

Respectfully submitted by Brenda McDonald, LLNA Board Secretary