

Iles Park Neighborhood Association
Neighborhood Watch Meeting Minutes January 7, 2019
Restoration Church, 6pm



14 people were in attendance.

▪ **Curt Drew, President**

- Thanked Pastor Joe and his wife Stephanie from Restoration Church for hosting us.
- In 2019, we will meet at the church for regular meetings and at Track Shack for Neighborhood Watch meetings. We will have speakers for regular meetings.
- Talked about how to get people to attend meetings. We will get 4 more yard signs printed. Text, email, website, Nextdoor, walking flyers in the spring were mentioned. Send postcards to more people on NextDoor.com
- **2018 Recap:**
 - We met at Track Shack last year
 - Garage Sale had poor participation – need to get more people involved.
 - Need younger families to participate.
 - National Night Out – 75 people attended last year; need more kids to attend.

▪ **Kenny Winslow, Police Chief**

- Talked about goals for this year.
- Break-ins to cars lead to residential burglaries. Lock your car; be cautious about where you leave automatic key fobs; report suspicious activity; call for shots fired.
- Focused Deterrence program targets small percent of worst offenders and is showing some promise. It offers assistance to offenders to change their ways: education, job training, and addiction services. Otherwise, they are held accountable for every infraction. 6 have accepted help; 5 disappeared. Also providing mentors in some schools to head off dropouts / gangs.
- Safe Neighborhoods offers funeral checks, vacation checks. Starting to register private security cameras so police can contact owners to get footage that could help solve a crime.
- HOT – Homeless officer is Chris Jones 217-741-081.
- Iles Park patrolled by Springfield Police after midnight and Park District Police are off duty. There have been some narcotic sales at night.
- Keep track of what's going on in the park, in the old barber shop. If you see something suspicious, report it. Is it legal and appropriate?
- Shots Fired technology being considered – it can identify location, caliber and number of guns fired. \$135,000 first year; \$125m000 annual maintenance for 3sq mile area.
- Working with Peoria to use machine to identify guns used by evaluating shell casings to link crimes together.
- Coffee With a Cop – 1st week in February at “hot spots” (Rock n Roll Hardy's?) Check Facebook or Twitter.

- **Mike Buscher, Neighborhood Police Officer**
 - Domestic issue on 5th St; residential burglary on 4th St.
 - Reinforced points made by Chief Winslow.

- **Ward 6 City Council Kristin DiCenso**
 - Talked about infrastructure. Public Works grades the condition of roads, sidewalks, streetlights to identify most-needed upgrades and plans accordingly. \$600,000 for alleys this year; an additional 2-3 alleys paved. Let her know of any severe problem area.
 - Newer neighborhoods are starting to see their infrastructure age and crumble.
 - The city posts construction updates every week, and Kristen posts updates on Facebook.
 - Clean out the curbs / sewer inlets in front of your home.
 - Ash underpass is ahead of schedule – should open mid-summer 2019.
 - Intermodal transportation location ribbon cutting on January 9th.

- **Ward 6 City Council Candidate Elizabeth Jones**
 - 12 year resident Iles Park.
 - Runs day care home on 5th St.
 - Concerned about: possible extended pickup of leaves; crime rate in neighborhoods, fly dumping, positive outcomes for growth and development.
 - Wants to be a part of the solution.

- **ICON City Council Candidate Forums:**
 - Wednesday Feb 6, 6pm – Wards 1-5
 - Thursday Feb 7, 6pm – Wards a6-10
 - South Side Christian Church

- **IPNA Board Election**
 - Curt Drew, President
 - Connie Preston, Vice President
 - Michelle Coffin, Treasurer
 - Carol Kneedler, Secretary

Next Meeting

- Iles Park Neighborhood Watch Meeting Feb 4, 6pm Track Shack

Respectfully submitted, Carol Kneedler, Secretary