

The TARA CRIME PREVENTION AND NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2018 at 7:00 pm
Goodwood Library
7111 Goodwood Blvd.
Baton Rouge, La.

On Monday, March 12, 2018 a quorum of the Board of Commissioners of the Tara Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District ("Board") met at the Goodwood Library for the first quarterly meeting of 2018.

The following commissioners were present:

Fabian Blache
Bill Kipf
Lisa Catalanatto
Dale Songy
Estelle Rome
Duke Williams

Absent:

Fred Gwin
Ross DeNicola

Commissioner Duke Williams is a new member of the Board appointed by Sen. Dan Claitor.

The minutes from the December, 2017 meeting were accepted by acclamation.

Security:

Incident Report:

Dale Songy summarized:

- January: there were 5 alarms responded to by police, including one unforced entry with a wallet stolen from a car; and four residential burglaries.
- February: there were 4 alarms responded to by police with 0 vehicles burglaries and 0 residential burglaries reported.
- March: to date, there have been 2 alarms responded to by police with 0 burglaries reported

Security Report:

-Dale reported on discussions with the Tara Civic Association regarding the policy related to securing access to the cameras. As outlined in our December meeting, the protocol for accessing camera data will typically involve a police report outlining the incident with access to the cameras available to the police with assistance from Custom Security. Dale also reported to the TCA that Custom Security relates the data on the security cameras is typically available for up to 3 months.

-Dale reported the cost for an additional camera is approximately \$6,500 and the Security Committee is reviewing the preferred location for the next installation to be completed this year. Dale has been in

discussions with Saia Electrical with regard to obtaining electrical service to the remaining three camera locations with Saia Electrical contributing to solving some logistical challenges in providing a power source to the respective cameras. As most of the new camera locations are in proximity to existing utility servitudes, these challenges appear to be manageable. Dales' report included a discussion among members regarding the specifics of each location and particulars related to each.

-A general discussion followed regarding the Tara Crime District policy of following up with reported incidents. To date, the TCD has not had such a formal policy. Officer Aleesha Kuhn reported on the typical process for securing and obtaining official police reports and files on incidents. The discussion continued regarding the potential for such follow-up reports and the manner in which it might be handled.

Budget Report:

-Lisa Catalanatto reported that the 2018 budget outlined a provision for approximately \$10,000 for the cost of a new camera installation. The actual cost reported today is approximately \$6,500 for the cost of the new camera plus the cost of installation and securing power to the site.

-Lisa reported that, to date, approximately \$65,746 in dues has been received. This compares to a budgeted amount of \$70,000. Some additional funds are anticipated to be forthcoming as the year progresses.

-Lisa also reported the completed financial statements have been submitted to the auditor. The auditor will then forward this information to the State Auditor which will certify that the TCD is in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.

New Business:

-Dale Songy related that Bill Kipf will initiate improved methods of communication between the TCD and Tara residents. These efforts will include working with the TCA in resurrecting the TCD web site; providing a TCD e-mail address to be posted on the website; making efforts to have a TCD member at each TCA meeting and vice versa.

Beautification:

-Dale publicly extended thanks to Jim Bob Ourso for his many years of volunteering to maintain much of the landscaping at the entrances to the subdivision on the boulevard and related he has had discussions with different landscaping entities interested in potentially taking over these activities.

Dues Increase: The deadline for providing notice to the Tax Assessors regarding any dues increase is June. Any decision regarding any change in dues will be discussed at the June meeting.

-Dale introduced Sheri Morris, acting attorney for the TCD, and reminded everyone to take the ethics test again for re-certification. Ms. Morris reminded the members the ethics course is required on an annual basis and can be accessed on-line at ethics.state.la.us; or a live course can be used with schedules outlined on the same website. Ms. Morris also reminded members that a Tier 2.1 Finance Report is also required to be filed by each member every year. Ms. Morris also related there is currently a bill pending before the state legislature that would exempt Crime District members from this requirement if it were to pass.

General extended discussion followed among TCD members and residents regarding a need for improvement in communication between the Board and residents as well as a need to follow-up on an updated website.

There being no further business, Lisa Catalanatto proposed a motion to adjourn. Bill Kipf seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.