

**Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization
Minutes of October 12, 2013 @ Vista del Monte School
General Membership Meeting
By, Joseph May**

Welcome and Introductions

Robert Perry called the meeting to order at 2:12 PM. Board members in attendance were: Terry Towne, Robert Perry, Dean Nicastro, Joseph May, Donna Chaban-Delmas, John Russel, Lauren Scarbro. and Rick Vila. In addition there were many members, politicians, a police officer, the school's principal, and a few people off the street who heard that there was going to be free ice cream.

Robert read the Mission Statement of RCENO.

Financial Report

Dean reported that we have \$26,197.26.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the past two months were approved. Terry noted that she liked the way Lauren put action items in red. **I guess that was a subtle hint to me to do the same thing.**

Officer Reports

Terry reported on PSNIC:

- PSNIC is endorsing a plastic bag ban

Lots of stuff going on:

- Chile Cook-off at the casino
- Oktoberfest coming up
- AIDS walk coming up
- Motorcycle Weekend is coming up
- Pride week is coming up
- Veteran's Day Parade
- Bike trails going in around town
- PSNIC work group to discuss vacation rental ordinance
- Candidate forum was successful

Award to Vista del Monte ES

Robert awarded Joe Scudder, principal of VDM, a check for \$3,000 to help fund their attendance incentive program. Photos were taken, everyone applauded, a warm fuzzy feeling enveloped the multi-purpose room.

Guest Speaker- Officer Kyle Stjerne

Officer Stjerne reported that residential burglaries were up in our neighborhood. There were eight in the last month. He wanted to know why we thought this was happening.

Various members told stories about their homes being broken into. Stjerne said that this was a city-wide trend but our neighborhood has been affected more than most. He said that they target homes where there are not full-time residents. He advised us that alarm systems are our best protection. He also recommends building a community watch. He said that the police have a better record of arresting someone with stolen property than they actually arrest them for burglary. The police department is mostly now attempting to retrieve property that was stolen.

There are two primary times of day that burglars work: late at night/early morning and daytime when people are at work and wouldn't notice trucks pulled up in front of homes emptying them of their contents. If we witness such activity he said a good description of the car and license plate is better than descriptions of the people. He advised us to start a watch and to have neighborhood watch signs installed.

City Council Candidates

Three of the four candidates for City Council spoke briefly.

- Chris Mills- said he would do a wonderful job if re-elected and asked for our vote.
- Ginny Foat- said she would do a wonderful job if re-elected and asked for our vote.
- Judy Deertrack- said she would do a wonderful job if elected and asked for our vote.

Guest Speaker- Lee Bonno

Lee praised our organization and talked about some things coming up including the Festival of Lights parade and the community picnic. She mentioned that 23 neighborhoods now have blade signs and mentioned app Palm Springs@your service where citizens can post and send a picture of litter, blight, etc and get both action to remedy the situation but an email response.

American Dream Builders

All agreed that this was a great event for our neighborhood and city. Robert, Terry, Dean, and Donna were involved in the judging of the work. Dean had the good fortune to have the main catering truck parked in his driveway. The show will air in late February.

2014 Home Tour

We only have a few homes set. Time is running out and we need more homes! **If anyone has any ideas for homes to be included please let Joseph or Robert know.**

2013 Festival of Lights Parade

There was a call for people to help wrangle our fleshy elf.

New Business

Joseph talked about the RCE cookbook that some were involved with. He urged members to send in their recipes.

Date	Location, home of...
January 12	Ren Oliver
February 9	Robert Perry
March 9	Rick Vila
April 13	Bob Merliss
May 11	General Membership @ Vista del Monte School
June 8	Terry Towne
July	No meeting
August 10	Lauren Scarbro
September 14	Joseph May
October 12	General Membership and picnic @ Victoria Park
November 9	Terry Towne
December 14	Robert Perry

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM. Everybody went outside to eat ice cream.

