

University Gardens Property Owners Association, Inc.

9 Sussex Rd. Great Neck, NY 11020

www.ugpoa.org

Emergency Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 11-16-11, 8pm

1. Welcome and Introduction – Al Rudorfer
2. Police Update - Sgt. James Mandaro
 - “Smash and Grab” burglaries common crime in neighborhoods like UG
 - There has been no change in patrols
 - There is an ongoing investigation to all the burglaries, no arrests made
 - Police not assuming same people doing the crimes in UG
 - Police think that burglaries of occupied homes were accidental on the part of the burglars.
 - Homeowner Comment: there is a problem with solicitors. Police: call 311, no matter how many times it happens
 - Homeowner Comment: We see "strange" cars and people all the time what do we do? Police: call 911
3. History of Security – Bob Leighton
 - Crime waves come and go. Crime rate often higher when economy is bad
 - UG hired a patrolling security guard in the past. It was ineffective and expensive
 - Observations: walking around the neighborhood 7 out of 10 houses are dark. Some maybe only had one bulb over the door
 - Suggestion: Homes need to be well lit
4. Security Committee – Lauraine Kanders, Jacob Agris
 - Individually started making observations about neighborhood and poolhouse (drug paraphernalia found and loiterers, etc.)
 - Board asked SC to brainstorm and research security options. SC talked to KP police and researched new security technologies
 - SC presented to Board, the Board was proactive for making the poolhouse secure with lighting and video
5. Security Options and Feasibility - Commissioner Andy DeMartin
 - If UG wanted to install cameras at the entrances then UG has to go through Town and residents have to front the bill
 - Increase the light wattage on UG streets already being processed. Need will be evaluated soon
 - **Homes must by law display/light your house number**
 - Cameras will not prevent crime. May deter and may help with investigative purposes.
 - Nassau crime is handled by Nassau County police not the TNH
 - TNH will replace the light that is out on Wensley Rd.
 - TNH 311: [516-869-6311](tel:516-869-6311)
 - Patrolling security car is a deterrent
 - To put a stoplight (in UG road like Merrivale) is very expensive and TNH would have to make initiative to NYS
 - Speed bumps are not effective and causes damage to cars

Al Rudorfer, President & Pool Operations
Norman Roland, Treasurer
David DiJohn, Tennis Court Operations
Ken Ng, Board Member

Eddie Nassim, Vice President & Trees
Bob Leighton, Secretary
Robin Levine, Board Member

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- If see solicitors get their information/flyer/poster and call 311. They will follow up and fine that company.
- Homeowner Question: If I see a parking violation, how fast would 311 respond? 3 hour respond time

6. Alarm Options - Peter Allen, General Security Alarms

- Worth it to buy a safe, smash and grabbers don't have time to search for your valuables
- Lighting and security system best ways to help yourself be safe
- Homeowner Question: What's best to deter crime around home? Peter: lights, if you have a security system make sure there's a sign on your lawn, trim your hedges so you don't cover your windows, get an auto garage door closer

7. Homeowner Safety Tips – Captain Maria D'Amelio, Auxiliary Police

What burglars look for:

- Mail left in mailboxes
- UPS left in front of door
- Soliciting materials left on front door
- Home not cleared of snow
- Blinds always closed
- Open garage doors
- Homeowners leaving at a certain time
- No lights or lights only at front door

Tips:

- Don't leave messages of where you are
- Don't publicize your vacations
- Always set your house alarms even if only going to market
- Leave your alarm on even when you're in the house
- Learn more about your alarm system and how it works
- Give service personnel a unique code. Not the same as your families
- Upgrade your alarm system
- Surveillance cameras
- Leave a car in the driveway
- Call 311 for anything suspicious

8. Q&A

- Many homeowners voiced their concern that communication has been suboptimal and needs improvement, and the Board's response is that we are in agreement that communication needs to be improved. The Board asks for patience and encourages those who are willing to volunteer their time to assist with various committees (TBD) to contact our new secretary Sharon Kim

New secretary Sharon Kim was introduced. She will be making the following initiatives to improve communication between the Board and the homeowners:

- Create a google group for alerts and notices from the Board
- Overhaul and maintain the UG website with current and relevant information

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