

	Subject:	Madison Park Monthly Association Meeting	
	Date:	Monday, September 14th, 2009	
	Time:	7:30 p.m.	
	Location:	Wedgewood Baptist Church - Sanctuary	
	Presenters:		
	Meeting Chair: Ken Davis		Attendee Count: 22 members 1 CMPD officer
	Guest Speaker: Scott Walters, Child Shield USA		
http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/charlotte/madisonpk/			
Agenda:			

Welcome: Meeting brought to order by Ken Davis, President at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary space of the church. **Note:** Setup requirements of the Board of Elections displaced the meeting from the activity center annex of the church.

1. Crime Report – given by Officer Hairston

- a. 1100 Seneca – Hit and run, August 12
600 Cooper – Larceny (leaf blower) by two black males in their late teens driving a mid-90's Lincoln Town Car
1200 Woodlawn – Breaking and entering, August 24
700 Stanfield – Damage to property (auto)
800 Brockbank – Damage to property (auto window smashed by a round from a pellet gun)
5700 Wedgewood – Breaking and entering, September 8
5000 Baylor – Larceny from vehicle (sunglasses and GPS unit)

Note to residents:

PLEASE do not leave valuables in your car, regardless of whether it is locked or not. This includes cell phones, i-Pods, GPS devices, CDs, etc. These items are easily portable for you, and also for thieves. If you must leave them in your car, please make sure they are not in plain sight; do everything you can to keep them from being visible to someone who walks up and looks in your car. Lock them in the trunk; put them in the glove box, or even better, take them inside your house and **always** lock your car! It takes only a few seconds to smash a window, unlock a door, and grab an item out of a car.

Cars parked on the street are especially vulnerable. But, items have been taken from cars parked in carports and driveways. So, no one is immune. Safeguard your property. If there are no items in your car to steal, eventually they will either stop trying or move to another neighborhood where people are more careless.

If you leave items in your car, or visible in your car (especially power cords, mounting brackets, etc.) you are essentially advertising that you have something worth stealing in your vehicle and are assuring that you will become a crime victim. We live in a very safe neighborhood; but, for anyone who is looking for something to steal, it takes very little temptation to make them do it!

Special Guest Speaker – Scott Walters, Child Shield USA

Mr. Walters opened his remarks with a question: How many children are abducted daily in the US? The answer: 2,000. The Internet is now more fertile ground for abductors and molesters of children than a child being left to play alone near his/her home. Jailed felons are being released as professional predators because of the education they receive from other inmates while in prison. Communication with and the education of the children is of utmost importance. They have to understand how these people can operate. As an example, Mr. Walters told the story of the actions of his own 16-year old son. Mr. Walters and his son had gone to a restaurant prior to attending a sporting event. As Mr. Walters engaged in conversation with a nearby table (with his back to his son), a customer of the restaurant walked up to his son and invited him to join him outside for a joint. Immediately refusing to go along with the man's overture of a good time outside, the son proceeded to get up from his seat (as his victimizer went to sit back down across the restaurant) and went outside and called 911 on his cell phone. The next thing Mr. Walters knew was that a police officer had entered the restaurant and was talking to his son. The son then pointed to the man who was still in the restaurant. The police officer found enough marijuana on the suspect/victimizer to charge him with intent to deal a controlled substance.

Over 2,000,000 children are already enrolled with Child Shield, USA. Of three (3) abductions of children from this pool of enrollees all three children were safely returned to their homes within 48 hours. The organizations next initiative is enrolling mentally challenged adults and Alzheimer's patients.

Mr. Walters noted that registered sex offenders are tracked on police and sheriffs' department websites. For more information contact Scott Walters 704.502.8937 or www.shieldyourchildtoday.com.

Neighborhood Updates

a. All-Stops Update

The mailing for the all-stops at Wedgewood and Murrayhill was sent out in early September. To date, we have had 3 responses from postcards or via email. Ken offered copies of the letter and the postcard that was mailed if anyone wanted to review them. [One set of copies was requested by a member attending tonight's meeting who lives in close proximity to the intersection but did not receive the mailing because he did not live at a mandated address.]

- b. **Speeding on Farmbrook** – Marty has been in touch with CDOT about having "speed 'pads' "put down on Farmbrook in order to collect accurate information on traffic speeds on Farmbrook, since we have a documented problem with cut-through traffic. CMPD stated that one set of the pads is in the shop for repairs and that we are on the list to get them set up on Farmbrook. This may help with the request for a combination of all-stops and speed tables that currently are not on the approved list. In order to calm traffic, the neighborhood can ask for the installation of one or the other, but not both along the same stretch of road, although there is strong data indicating that the speed tables are too far apart to be effective.

c. Yard Sales at Yorktown Apartments

No further issues with Yorktown Apartments having yard sales on their property.

d. Problem houses at 1813, 2016 and 2024 Tyvola Road – No Updates

- e. **Problem house at 1030 Keystone** – A neighbor has entered into an agreement with the current owner to conduct certain yard maintenance and cleanup tasks. The neighbor has completed some cleanup to date and has remedied several eyesores in the front yard of the property. The backyard appears to be in violation of ordinances requiring plant growth to be maintained at or below 12 inches. The house appears to be in compliance with zoning codes. While clearly in a visible state of neglect, the house does not appear to be in a current state of disrepair.

- f. **Buried Heating Oil Tanks** – Many of our homes originally had oil furnaces (back when oil was cheap, or at least US oil). Some homes still have them in the ground. These tanks have been determined to be a hazard to groundwater and soil by the EPA. If anyone is interested in hearing a presentation on how these tanks can impact the sale of your home, please let me know via the madisonparkhoa@hotmail.com email address and we can schedule someone to come in to explain the process, costs and methods involved. The bureaucratic and physical processes to have the old oil tank rendered a "non-hazard," "non-liability" to your property are not easy – the paperwork, etc., for getting EPA approval, finding a contractor who can do the work, testing of the soil, and obtaining funding from the EPA trust fund to help offset the costs are very specific. We have a good contact for having this work done if you need it.

- g. **Installation of Speed Awareness Signs on Tyvola Road (near Smith Academy)** – In process; no updates as to timeline; still anticipating late October or November for installation.

2. Old Business

- a. **Woodlawn Road** – no updates on the condition of the roadway. Ken did speak with Meck 311 about the overgrown lawns and trees hanging over/blocking the sidewalks – they opened a case to send someone out and drive the road. If you note specific problems, please call Meck 311 or send the HOA an email with the street address. They need the actual physical location (house #, intersection, etc.) where the problem is before they will address it.

- b. **Flooding at Montford & Bradbury** – City Councilman, Andy Dulin, has been in contact with the city regarding the flooding at Montford & Bradbury. The City is holding a meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 6:30pm in the Arts & Crafts conference room at the Marion Diehl Recreation Center, 2219 Tyvola Road. Invitations are being mailed out to the residents who live in and around that area.

3. New Business

- a. **Treasurer's Report:** We currently have \$1,221.87 in our account. The HOA has 54 paid members. Membership forms **(and payment of \$20 dues via credit card/PayPal)** are available on the community resource table located at the back of the meeting room at each meeting, as well as online at <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/charlotte/madisonpk/>. In lieu of signing up online, you may also complete an application at your convenience and mail it and your check to Madison Park HOA, PO Box 242432, Charlotte, NC 28244. Note: Dues paid beginning October 1st qualify as a 2010 dues payment.
- b. **Madison Park HOA October Festival** – Has been cancelled.
- c. **Disposition of National Night Out (NNO) offers of support** – Target, Showmar's and Parks and Recreation did extend not only monetary support but also supplies and equipment rental support toward the HOA's observance of NNO. The timing of their commitments was unfortunately too close to the actual date of NNO to facilitate their acceptance. The Board met in executive session in the week before the August HOA meeting to discuss the feasibility of staging NNO with the HOA's funds alone. To the Board, the commitment of essentially all of the HOA's monetary reserves to stage NNO appeared imprudent and unwarranted. Within 48 hours of the close of the August meeting where Ken told the HOA of the Board's decision not to stage NNO, commitments of support from Target and Showmar's were presented to the president of the HOA. Ken has subsequently sent a note of thanks to Target declining their commitment of support and he plans to personally thank the local Showmar's manager. No monies came into the control of the HOA as a result of these commitments to support our NNO observance. Likewise, reservation of the Picnic Shelter at Park Road Park has been cancelled.
- d. **RSVP to specialevents@queens.edu. Queen's University Sport's Complex at Marion Diehl Park Invitation to a "Grand Opening" OPEN HOUSE Saturday, September 26, 2009, 1:30 - 6:30pm** Please do RSVP and let Queen's know that you are coming. See the link and information on the HOA website at neighborhoodlink.com. There will be food, carnival games and both a men's and women's soccer game that afternoon.
- e. **Board Nominations** – Nominations for the Board of Directors of the HOA will be made during the October meeting. Voting will take place at the November meeting. Openings for the Board include President, Vice-President, Treasurer and several Director positions. If you are interested in running or would like to nominate someone for a post, please attend the October meeting and either announce your interest in running yourself, or make your nomination.

4. Open Discussion

- a. **Madison Park Neighborhood Yard Sale (for homes south of Tyvola Road) set for Saturday, October 3rd** Note - this is a group of groups sale. It will be huge. Check the calendar on the HOA website for details. Starts at 7:00am. Newlywed Lindsay Mackey is coordinating permits. Bless her. Talk about not changing Zip codes when you marry. Lindsay didn't even change neighborhoods. She was raised on Keystone Ct. and now lives with her husband, Andrew on Valley Forge.
- b. **Montclair / Madison Park Mom's Group has formed.** If anyone wants to join and get the monthly newsletter, they can e-mail Kim Dwyer at designsdiva@hotmail.com. New mom, April Mays, has already enjoyed a play date with her daughter arranged through the group.

New Members/First Time Attendees

5 new members were in attendance:

George Palmer – Murrayhill Rd.

Andrew and Lindsay Mackey – Valley Forge Dr.

Byrd and Archie Legron – Keystone Ct.

Adjournment: Time: 8:35pm.