

PVCA meeting Dec 18 2008 Notes

1. Update and discussion from Officer Steve Salera, LMPD. Discussion of safety over the holidays; note that in as we are in hard times, things could get worse. Advises to keep doors and windows locked; to take care of boxes around the holidays. Recent burglaries involved former employees or contractors.
2. Report from Commissioner Mark Taylor.
 - a. Notes that on the whole this area has relatively fewer crime incidents than others.
 - b. Croyle: The LMSD keeps tabling the land application, and it has been tabled until next year; not sure of the reason, but likely because they are waiting for the court to rule.
 - c. Township has reached agreement to buy the Spaventa parcel to be part of the Cynwyd Trail. From Cynwyd station, there will be a 12-foot wide paved trail all the way to the viaduct crossing into Manayunk. Construction will take approximately 1-2 years.
 - d. Also purchased another parcel, part of which will become a dog park.
 - e. Local access to cell coverage. Township has contracted with a "node provider"—47 DSA nodes will be installed. Once they are installed, cell coverage in the township will be improved considerably in Gladwyne and Penn Valley
 - f. Ruby's parking lot issue. Kimco, which owns Suburban Square, wanted to rezone Ruby's parking lot for construction of apartments. The application was withdrawn in light of belief that the township would deny the application.
 - g. Installation of stop sign at Hagy's Ford and Flat Rock has been approved.
 - h. Discussion of whether Narberth will eventually take any action to improve the streetscape on Montgomery Avenue.
 - i. Discussion of impact of economic situation on the township. LMT has a budget shortfall. Dip in real estate tax income. Township health plan premiums went up 20%. Budget passed last night found \$800,000 of cuts. Reined in capital budget. Cut outside consulting dramatically.
 - j. Question of whether properties will be reassessed downward to reflect slight downturn in value, and as such result in lower taxes. Discussion about the fact that most properties in this area were last assessed in 1997. Situation is different with new construction.
 - k. Announcement that Superintendent Daly is retiring, and Captain McGrath will assume leadership of LMPD.
3. Treasurer's report.
 - a. Balance as of Dec 17, 2008: \$18,214.32.

- b. Total collected dues are down 50% in comparison to previous years at this time. 85 members. \$2950 has been collected to date in 2008-2009 dues.
- 4. Treevitalize Grant funds. Discussion of applying for grant money to purchase trees for planting in the PVCA area. Discussion of the township shade tree program, which will be conducting replanting of 30,000 trees in the right of ways.
- 5. PVCA Board and Bylaws. Discussion of the need for new officers and Board for the PVCA. Officers are supposed to serve for 2 years only; we will be seeking new officers.
- 6. Federation update. Discussion of St. Joe's recent purchase of the former Episcopal land parcel. The newly formed Merion community coalition is opposing St. Joe's intended use of the fields for varsity sports.