

- Are police allowed to use cell phones while driving? (yes, as long as it's in their normal course of duty)
- How long can a dumpster be on a street? One has been on Revere for 4 weeks with no work apparently going on. (Until it's full, but Det. Russo will research any statutes).

Det. Russo also informed us of excessive charges relating to a car that had been towed and stored. There are statutes that govern how much a towing company can charge; also, if they accept credit cards in their normal business activities they cannot insist upon cash only for towing.

There was a discussion about the relationship between civility and respect among people and the upkeep of properties. Guests from Ardmore Avenue disagreed, as some neighbors loiter, play loud music, and are general nuisances in areas where residents keep up their properties. Det. Russo agreed to a point but noted that, where changes need to occur, he could go to the landlords. When appropriate, landlords must be responsible for their tenants. He can also provide flyers on the "10 Commandments of Good Neighbors", he also suggested neighborhood walks. He urged that there be 1 or 2 block captains to organize neighborhood cleanups. Charles Thomas had invited residents from the Ardmore Avenue neighborhood to join us to strengthen both neighborhoods, and offered to help them establish their own civic association.

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4. Det. Russo noted that the district had additional money this year, and they are stretching it as much as possible. The VPCA may need to contribute some money toward the water slide. Charles offered to help coordinate distribution of flyers with Marilyn King.

Park issues:

Tree pruning: Marilyn and Andrea Swartz will be working with the city to learn how to properly care for trees in the park. Also, volunteers are asked to take responsibility for the keys to unlock and lock the tennis courts daily. Bob Midura offered to do so.

Craft Fair: VPCA is hosting its second annual craft fair, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 24 in the St. Anthony's Church Hall. Sr. Ruth noted that the elevator should be in place by then. Marilyn will organize.

It was noted that many people who are moving into the neighborhood are fixing up their properties, and that we should thank people for doing so. It was also pointed out that trees on Hamilton Avenue are looking shabby. Marilyn will write to the County, as these are the county's responsibility. Marilyn also commented on the police citizen's academy, and said that Director Bradley is making it very community oriented.

With no further items to discuss, Brian Starkey moved that the meeting be adjourned. Kathy Starkey seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Kubiak