

Mountain Shadows Community Association
April 30, 2008 Annual Meeting
6:30 pm Chipeta Elementary

Opening Comments – Francine Hansen, President
Board Members Present: Dave Buckley, Anne Smith, Kerry Ann George, Ryan Schneider, Gary Lager, Phyllis Jordahl, Debbie Weaver, Dick & Francine Hansen, Kathleen Frazier

Francine called the Mountain Shadows Community Association Annual meeting to order at 7:05 PM. There were 58 neighbors in attendance.

The board was introduced and it was moved, seconded, carried to approve the board.

Alpine Chef catering provided our delicious refreshments tonight.

Anne Smith, Chairman of the Event committee, announced the following events:
May 17 – Third MSCA Community garage sale. MSCA will advertise the garage sale in local papers, sponsored by Kevin Patterson, President and CEO of the Patterson Group, Prudential Professional Realtors, and place signs announcing arrival into the MSCA garage sale area along the major streets. Individual sellers should put up their own signs at street corners and their house.

June 7 – For MSCA Members only, there will be a shredding opportunity at Wilson United Methodist Church parking lot, from 9 – 10:45 AM. Each MSCA member is welcome to bring two copy boxes or one large trash bag full of confidential material.

June 22 – MSCA Spring Concert in the Park, 5–7 PM.

Rain date: June 29th.

Ryan Schneider, Developments, informed those present that a Senior Living Center with 107 suites is planned for the parcel just South Mormon Church on Centennial.

Blog on the website will undergo a complete renovation for social activities. What is the blog website?

Our guest speakers were:

FIREWISE: Chris Barth, Fire Department, talked about the type of vegetation that we have makes up the fire areas at risk. Every property has been identified as to the rate of risk; they have 25 criteria. A Chipping Program is available with 12 or more homeowners participating; The MSCA chipper is scheduled for the week of September 15th. Piles are to be stacked 5 x 5 x 5 and within 5' of the roadway. Sign up sheet at the table.

Next year we will reassess each property; information is updated regularly when home improvements and landscaping are made. We have a Hillside ordinance and covenants. The Hillside ordinance allows you to remove brush within 10 feet around your property.

Colorado Springs has received a \$1,000,000 from FEMA Grant for fire reduction activities on private and public properties. They will start with the Rockrimmon area.

Commander Ownbey from the Falcon Division, gave an overview of the Police Dept. organization, 63% of their time is spent on Patrol Response, 23% Administrative time, 14% Proactive policing. When they write more traffic tickets, fewer accidents occur. He reviewed the services provided for our area. There has been a huge increase for burglary calls from 2000 to 2007.

The results of neighborhood watch areas show where crime has gone down.

If people would just close their garage doors, the crime would go down by 50%. No Soliciting signs are very important. If solicitors would get the message they are not welcome in our neighborhoods, they would soon get the message. All the graffiti is vandalism. Gang activity is very limited in our area. 911 calls response time is 11 minutes.

Dave Hustad, Neighborhood Watch was present to answer questions and inform neighbors about the program.

Councilman Scott Hente, addressed the audience question of budget. The departments of Police, Fire, Public Works take 78% of the City Budget. You may have the opportunity to vote on a budget initiative of sales tax. Government cannot be as efficient as private business. We share Fire resources and joint responsibilities with surrounding communities. A lot of things are going on at the City, U S Olympics, regulations on Memorial hospital, and many other topics.

Scott took a Q & A Session.

Question: Why such a low tax base?

Question: What are we doing about the Economic Development for our area?

A: We will capitalize on the Olympics logo and promote a lot of small sport associations.

We have a tremendous responsibility to educate our Mountain Shadows neighbors on the needs of the City.

Francine invited the attendees to attend the CONO Neighborhood Forum, Saturday May 3rd from 8:30 - 2 PM at the Regional Development Center, 2880 International Circle.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Phyllis Jordahl, Secretary