

**Kenwick Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Agenda
Kenwick Center
Tuesday, January 26, 2010 7-8 pm**

1. The meeting was well-attended with approximately 36 neighbors and board members. Speakers included Commander Weathers, Detective Flannery, Officer Lynn, David O'Neill (Fayette County PVA), Cheryl Feigel.

2. Opening Remarks - Cara McWhorter, KNA President 7:00 pm

Cara McWhorter, the new KNA president, announced the order of speakers would be reversed between Commander Weathers and David O'Neill.

3. Update about investigations into recent burglaries and vandalism in the Kenwick Neighborhood - Commander Weathers, Detective Flannery, and Officer Lynn with the Lexington Police Department 7:05 pm

Commander Weathers spoke about his philosophy regarding his position, getting criminals arrested and keeping them in jail. He stated it was important for KNA residents to be in contact with the police they have concerns, especially if they feel and issue is not be addressed properly.

Detective Flannery (who also delivered a crime investigation report at the last KNA general meeting) reported that since the November arrests were made in connection with the recent Kenwick burglaries, crime reports in the Kenwick neighborhood (beat 2A) have dropped significantly. In fact, beat 2A currently has the lowest rate of crime anywhere in Fayette County. Approximately \$10,000 in stolen goods had been recovered and most have already been returned to their rightful owners. If you have had items stolen the best way to identify them is to report serial numbers for electronics or to submit photos for items such as jewelry. Detective Flannery also announced he has been reassigned from residential burglary to the special victims unit and that Officer Lynn is one of our new neighborhood officers.

The recent rash of vandalism was investigated and was reported to be a one-time event at this point and was not thought to be gang related. Cheryl Feigel spoke about the more serious vandalism in the 5th district that will be addressed at the next Committee Meeting. She asked that folks take photographs and report any graffiti to us as soon as they see it. She also asked that residents contact her office regarding any other neighborhood issues that they feel are not being addressed.

Officer Lynn is our new neighborhood resource officer. He spoke about the importance of safety watch and keeping an eye on any suspicious activity that you see in your immediate area. If you see suspicious activity in progress call 911, suspicious activity that is no longer in progress or is not urgent can be reported by calling 258-3700. Officer Lynn stressed that we should record serial numbers of big ticket items

such as electronics in our households as a precaution. He also suggested that the crime prevention through environmental design can be an important tool to help prevent burglaries. LFUCG also has services available for free residential inspection to help you make your home an unlikely target for crime. Officer Lynn can be contacted at rlynn@lfucg.com or at 312-1029.

4. David O'Neill, Property Value Administrator, with the Lexington PVA 7:35 pm

Mr. O'Neill came to speak about the home property values that are used to assess property tax within Lexington. Property values are reassessed on a regular basis, usually every four years. These values are based on the sale price of your home and the recent sales of homes around you. If your home's value has been changed during a given year, a notice is usually sent during April.

Property values can be challenged during the open enrollment which usually is a 13 day period after the first Monday in May. Contacting the PVA office is the first step in challenging the value assigned to your home. Good examples of cases where your home may have been over valued include: 1. Owning a home that is not selling at a certain price point and has been on the market for a while. 2. Owning a home that is within a small area that has had multiple homes that have sold with high values recently (such as homes that have been renovated extensively or "flipped"). Mr. O'Neill encourages you to challenge the value of your home if you feel it is justified and don't worry about the sales value of your home should you try to sell it in the future.

If you are 65 or older or if you are disabled, you may qualify for a reduction in property taxes. This is called the homestead exemption and usually those with low incomes qualify. For more information please contact the PVA office.

Information regarding your property values and the values of home around you please visit www.fayettecountypva.com.

5. Adjourn 8:10 pm

Recorded by: Sara Constantine