**Briarcrest Neighborhood Association General Meeting**

**December 10, 2017**

**Patty Pan Cooperative**

Present: Glinda Matthews, Sarah Kaye, Devra Gartenstein, Bill Dwyer, Janelle Woolsey, Lois Harrison, Ann Lynch, Lee Keim, Mary Jo Kintner, Jean Hilde, Alice Keller, Ian Taylor, Afifi Durr, Cameron Reed, Melissa Ivancevich.

Meeting called to order at 7PM

Meeting minutes. Minutes approved as amended.

Treasurer’s report. Sarah reported that there has been no change to our financial status ($234). She hasn’t yet coordinated with Jean to open a BECU account but that task is on her to-do list.

CON. Bill attended the holiday party, where a good time was had by all. He sat at the table with the mayor, and had a chance to plug the emergency preparedness agenda. The conversation left Bill feeling that the city is ready is ready to step up and start doing something. There are two possible emergency preparedness fairs planned in the next year. Bill will be instrumental in organizing both of those fairs.

Storytelling. Friday January 5 is the next storytelling event, at Jon and Amy’s house. Afifi suggested that we invite Ridgecrest people to attend when we see them at the police event. The 1001 Nights storytelling event will be held in May. We were granted $250 to put towards this event by the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council. Afifi encourages people to pick a 10 minute story from the 1001 Nights books and to tell this story at the event. Forty people have already signed up to tell stories, and there are six stories still waiting to be claimed.

Grace Cole Park. Ian reported that he is currently reaching out to the Lake Forest Park community because the park is technically theirs. He has reached out to Lake Forest Park parks director, and now needs to reach out to LFP residents.

South Woods. Lois has been working with Bettelinn to enlist people to pull ivy. Lois went to speak to the Shorecrest High School Environmental club, where she told them some history of the park: it was once naval officer housing, when Fircrest was a naval hospital. At that time people didn’t know that ivy and holly were invasive so they planted them there. Lois felt it was worthwhile to be at the environmental club event, and was impressed by the young women who attended. There was also a ten-year-old boy with a press pass from the Briarcrest News. Jean suggested making the cleanup/invasive plant removal into a monthly event. Lois agreed that it would be good to do something regularly, but maybe not in the winter.

Police meeting. This will be a rather hastily put together event about rising crime in Briarcrest and Ridgecrest, at Shorecrest High Schoolon Thursday December 14 . We have the room from 6 to 10. Jean noted that there has been a particular spike in break-ins within four blocks of her house.

Stop the Bleed Class. Bill reported that twenty people attended. Two doctors helped to teach about what to do to help save lives in the first critical few minutes before emergency crews arrive. The event included some hands-on activities, and attendees felt it was well worth doing.

Emergency preparedness: sanitation. Sarah demonstrated a makeshift emergency bathroom setup that included a bucket, lid, kitty litter, and thick garbage bag. It’s ideal to have two buckets, one for poop and one for pee (or pee in your backyard). Soap and water is the best way to clean your hands, and hand sanitizer is second best. Always wash for longer than you think you need. Ask the city before you dispose of your bag of human poop through the regular trash system.

Emergency hub. The Briarcrest hub is in process! We should have one by the end of January or beginning of February. The next step is to get a committee together and decide what we want to stock in the hub. Maybe we can talk more about this at the next meeting.

Surface water utility. Cameron and Melissa spoke about water quality issues with Thornton Creek. Sarah made the distinction between surface water and ground water: surface water is literally on the surface so it includes creeks, streams, and lakes, which are all fed by water from rain or snow. Some things individuals can do to preserve the quality of groundwater include checking vehicles for leaks, washing cars at commercial car washes rather than in residential driveways, planting trees, and picking up pet waste. The surface water utility maintains infrastructure and monitors water quality in creeks and watersheds. Littles Creek is close to Briarcrest. Water quality is measured is measured on a scale of 1 to 100, with scores lower than 40 being cause for concern. The overall water quality measured at Littles Creek was 9, which is extremely low. What can we do to improve it? Pick up pet waste. Mark storm drains with the message “No dumping, drains to lake.” There’s also an adopt-a-drain program, where individuals can take responsibility for particular drains. Rain gardens also help with water quality, and rebates are available to help individuals and businesses with rain gardens and native vegetation landscaping. Alice asked how to regulate cats, and Melissa responded that this is a tough issue to tackle so they’re going after dogs first.

Adjourned at 8:45