

Minutes
Longmont Neighborhood Group Leaders Association
April 17, 2008
Longmont Senior Center

Meeting was called to order: 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Mark Lowe
Meeting agenda: motioned & approved
Meeting minutes (3/20/08): motioned & conditionally approved (were not available beforehand)

YMCA Healthy Communities Initiatives — Barb McGaughey from the Longmont YMCA told the members that they had received a grant from the State of Colorado and had set up a steering committee consisting of Mayor Roger Lange and representatives from the SVVSD, Longmont United Hospital staff, a dietician, etc. The committee will put together a needs assessment. Barb requested that each neighborhood fill out a survey, which was distributed at the meeting.

Police Updates — Longmont Police Cmdr. Paul Zuber reported that total crime issues for March were stagnant; some were down, and some were up, with no significant trends. 13 cars were stolen in March in Longmont, 9 of which were unlocked and 2 of which had the keys in the ignition. Of 17 homes burglarized, 9 had their garage doors left open. Cmdr. Zuber requested that whenever we see something suspicious, we should call the police. Vigilance is the #1 thing.

Staff Updates — Jon Clarke reported that the Neighborhood Activity Fund grant applications were in today's mail for all NGLA reps. We should bear in mind that all NIP grants come from the City's Public Improvement Fund, not from general operating funds. All NIP grants submitted to the City had been approved and will eventually be listed on the City's website.

Terry Duffin reported that the City will conduct four HOA trainings this year; see the handout for details. She also reported that the Wolf Creek neighborhood had just conducted a Tamales & Talk and suggested that any neighborhood contact her when they're ready to conduct one of their own. Neighborhood resources are now shown on the City's website. (<http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/cnr/index.htm>)

Public Invited To Be Heard — An inquiry was made about neighborhood websites. Neighborhoods without separately hosted and maintained websites should rely on neighborhoodlink.com, which appears to be free to use. Enter your zip code and you'll get a list of neighborhood links. It is up to neighborhood leaders to keep the information updated and accurate. Call or email to get administrative access.

By motion duly made and seconded, the NGLA meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The members then conducted a 'Green Meeting' with representatives of the Keep It Clean Partnership, City of Longmont Parks and Open Space, and Longmont Power & Communications.

Keep It Clean Partnership (KeepItCleanPartnership.org) — Janelle Freeston reported that, contrary to common belief, water from storm drains is not filtered or treated in any manner but instead goes directly into the watershed in Boulder County. All kinds of pollutants get in there. She noted that there are over 60,000 dogs in Boulder County, and encouraged us to use car washes rather than washing our cars in our driveways, unless we're using biodegradable soap. The Keep It Clean Partnership is forming 'stream teams'; they have a speakers bureau as well as an in-depth neighborhood stewardship training program. Contact Janelle at 303-413-7387 or freestonj@bouldercolorado.gov.

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Longmont Parks & Open Space — Project Manager Steve Ransweiler reported that his department develops parks and trails from acquisition through construction. The projects are then turned over to the City for maintenance. A master plan for the Quail Campus was completed last year. There is no funding for it yet, but they do have cost estimates. The City's portion of lottery funds, about \$900,000 per year, has been going into the St. Vrain Greenway project. They will be prioritizing 17 trail connection improvement projects for completion over the next several years.

Longmont Power & Communications — Bill Ewer reported that L P & C is a non-profit utility that is providing Longmont residents and businesses with the lowest electricity rates in Colorado. Sustainability and efficiency are big priorities. There will be a free Home Energy Workshop on April 30th, 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. L P & C is still providing discounts on CFLs purchased at Ace Hardware, Home Depot, and Budget. Bill feels that recent news reports concerning mercury dangers with CFLs were overblown, since each bulb contains less mercury than a watch battery. They are working on setting up disposal facilities.

Following the presentations, the members visited with the presenters at tables located around the room until approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



George C. Nowell, Secretary