

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Held on December 16, 2019
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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Village President Burke opened Public Comment at 8:51 P.M.

Timely Notifications of Incidents in the Village - Mrs. Doris Langon stated that she resides in Olympia Club. Mrs. Langon inquired of Trustee Oliver whether or not he could work with his Public Safety Committee to provide residents with more timely information, specifically related to the incident you talked about in Wysteria. She doesn't know exactly when it happened. She knows it was a while after that her and others became aware of it. Mrs. Langon stated that when incidents like that happen, sometimes those perpetrators continue until they are caught. She doesn't know what mechanism or what alerts you might consider, but clearly, we need to have more timely notification of serious infractions like that. She stated thank you. Trustee Oliver thanked Mrs. Langon.

Timely Notifications of Incidents in the Village - Mrs. Sandra Durley stated that she is the President of Arcadia. She wanted to echo the comments that were just offered by Mrs. Langon. The scenario that was described is a woman coming into her garage and someone came in afterwards. That's the scenario that she has every day. She heard about the scenario that was described through the grapevine. She believes that we have robo calls. It would have been nice to hear the robo calls. The resident came into her garage and was attacked in the garage. That's the scenario that she has every evening coming in. She would like to ask that when those incidents happen, that they be communicated to the residents so that we have a heightened sense of awareness

Village President Burke stated that as far as the police are concerned, he agrees with her 100% about being notified. That should have been something that should have been done. We've had a talk with the Police Department about that. It's a delicate balance between talking about things and scaring people to death. At the same time, we need to keep people informed. We don't want anybody being accosted in their house in the Village of Olympia Fields. Most of the things that happen around here occur outside of the Village where people don't live here. We have a population that is full of very honest people. There will be some of those people coming from the outside. We have to do a better job of letting people know when something occurs like that. We are going to fix that. That should not have happened.

Interim Police Chief Morgan stated that addressing the call in Wysteria, the female came home late at night. She didn't notice that a car was following her. She stopped in her driveway. She noticed a young man come up on the passenger side of her car. She got out to talk with him. When she got out, a second subject she didn't see came up behind her and hit her. They both jumped in the car and took off. The subjects were taken into custody about two and a half hours later in Dixmoor. He stated that four subjects were arrested. They were all juveniles. They were all charged with the appropriate charges.

Interim Police Chief Morgan stated that the thing with the community alert, as far as doing the robo calls and the Code Red, he feels personally that those are things that are happening right now in the Village.

Village President Burke stated that he would like at every one of our meetings, that we have at least a sanitized description if there is something that is horrific. We are going to have to depend

on the Public Safety Committee to come up with a delicate line between what we want to talk about perpetrators and what we don't want to talk about. He remembers about six months ago, there was a situation where two people got mugged down in Homewood. We should be letting people know to be on the lookout. In both of these cases the people were apprehended relatively quickly. At the same time, at least at a minimum, what we should be able to do is to say that such and such a situation occurred, especially since we apprehended these people within two hours, and let people know it has been taken care of. When there is stuff floating around, and rumors floating, people get really, really nervous about the rumors. If there is something that we can shut it down immediately, we should do that. If it is something that somebody still may be at large, we can try to figure out a way to communicate without crying fire in the theatre. We will still try to work through this to get the right balance. At the same time, we should be able to get back to the public to let them know something occurred, and at the same time, if we apprehended the person, or the culprits, that people can rest assured that it has been taken care of.

Timely Notification on Incidents - Mrs. Shirley Johnson stated that she wants her robo calls back. She didn't know that this had happened. She wants to know immediately. She wants to know everything that is happening around her. It is a shame that she just found out tonight. When did this happen with this carjacking? It should not happen anymore and she doesn't know. She wants to be informed about everything that happens in this town.