

**Mesquite Ranch Homeowner Association**  
**Monthly Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Date November 15, 2007**  
**Agenda**

**Call Meeting to Order** (7:05) Desert Willow Elementary School Rm. 904

**Roll call**

Directors present

Terry Hlivko  
Della Ellis

Director's Absent

Shay Pedersen  
Renee Williams

Tricia Hughes

Management Representatives

Bill Maguire & Mike Connoy

**Quorum** – A quorum was present to conduct an official meeting.

**Homeowner Comments** (3 minutes per home owner)

No comments

**Approval of Board Meeting of October 18, 2007-** Della Ellis motion to approve September minutes seconded by Tricia Hughes and approved by all.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurers' Report	Oct	Y-T-D
Total Income	28,795.78	220,664.76
Total Expense	16,471.21	191,842.20
Difference	12,324.57	28,822.56
Account Balances:		
US Bank Checking	46,645.39	
US Bank Saving	23,209.99	
Ed Jones MM	6,280.38	
CD Ed Jones 8/14/08	20,000.00	
CD Ed Jones 5/23/07	20,000.00	
CD Ed Jones 8/13/07	20,000.00	
Delinquent Fees	46,639.58	
Current	2,550.10	
Over 30 Days	17,447.16	
Over 60 Days	0	
Over 90 Days	26,642.32	

**Terry Hlivko motioned to approve the Treasurer's report seconded by Tricia Hughes and approved by all**

**Committee Report**

**Landscape –**

Complaint from Jet Janitorial about bathroom conditions after landscapers visits – reported to Northwest landscaping by both Shay Pedersen and Bill Maguire for follow up

**Pool-** Jet Janitorial cleaned storage areas and will continue. Put furniture away for winter but leave some pieces out.

**Financial** – Put 2008 budget on website as well as leave 2006 and 2007 on as well, ADAMLLC will contact the webmaster and seek 2006 budget information

**Newsletter-** Articles need by Jan 2, 2008 to be included in newsletter

**DRC-** Issue of neighbors who do not get along and refuse to sign OK for neighbors requests.  
next meeting of DRC is December 10 and answers will be on Dec 14, 2007

### **Manager-**

Status of member with unapproved Ramada-attorney has sent another letter, needs to be pointed out that it was never approved and is made of wood.

Doggie stations – Bid from Della Ellis on doggie service (attached). **Terry Hlivko motioned to accept the proposal and notify Loren pooper scooper December is last month of their service. Seconded by Tricia Hughes and approved by all**

Meeting location change? Free – Terry **Hlivko motioned to move meetings to National Storage at Houghton and Valencia lobby at 6:30 PM In return for the free service Mesquite Ranch agrees to place their logo on our website. Seconded by Della Ellis and approved by all**

Auction at 10371 Haymarket were notified that no rentals

### **Old business-**

Parking lot sealing starts November 19

Status of Hydrology report- follow up with hydrologist.

### **New Business**

Letter from Mr. Hlivko to Mr. Randy Pierce

Officer Gierke,

Thank-you for your response. As the President of the Mesquite Ranch Neighborhood Association (MRNA), I would like to provide you with the information that was provided to the TPD 911 operator including address and phone number.

Representing the MRNA I placed a total of four 911 calls from phone number 520.444.2024. The address provided to the TPD operator on each call was 6429 S. Woodland Hills Drive, Tucson, AZ 85747. Surely this information was available to you while conducting your research.

Three of the calls made are correctly identified in your response below as being placed on Sunday evening on 10/27/07. Between the hours of 1642 to 1736, there were no less than 75 shots fired by at least two weapons east of the Mesquite Ranch subdivision somewhere between the subdivision and the Pantano Wash and between Poorman Road and Bilby Road...clearly within established City limits.

On Friday morning, November 2, 2007 at approximately 0900 hrs I called 911 again for gunshots heard in the same vicinity as the previous Sunday incident. I then called a neighbor who lives approximately ¼ mile away and informed him of the shots. He then went outside to listen and informed me that he also heard no less than five distinct gunshots, and that there was more than one firearm being used. A transcript of the communication is available upon request. These shots were heard during mining operations which also places mining workers at risk.

On Tuesday evening, November 6, 2007 at approximately 1700 hrs TPD Sergeant Frank Solis, in Sector 8, called me on unrelated business and I informed him of the previous 911 calls. As I was discussing the timeframes of the calls, shots rang out again! Sgt Solis immediately sent a unit to east Poorman Road to investigate. At 1800 hrs I received a call from Officer Young who informed me that he had located the source of gunfire, a bird hunter, and resolved the issue. The hunter had a hunting license but was not properly licensed for hunting on state owned leased land AND he was firing his weapon inside City limits approximately 1/8 of a mile from the Mesquite Ranch subdivision. I don't know exactly what actions the officer took with the offender, however, the officer indicated it was clear that based on shell casings found at the site that this was not an isolated incident.

On Thursday evening, November 8, 2007 at 1830 hrs I had a discussion with the owner of L.A. Downey and Sons, one of three sand and gravel business owners located at the end of Poorman Road at the Pantano Wash. The owner indicated his business has had past issues with bullet holes, not shotgun spray, but bullet holes found on their vehicles.

The MRNA is concerned with any weapon discharges to the east of our subdivision but we are particularly concerned with the discharge of higher caliber firearms using bullets that have projectile trajectory ranges of over 2 miles. Law enforcement is well aware of ballistic specs for even the small 22 caliber round. Because the distance from the Mesquite Ranch subdivision is less than a mile from the Pantano Wash, residents are at an elevated risk of being struck by wayward bullets. To exacerbate this issue, MRNA residents routinely walk, run, hike, and ride bicycles east of the subdivision which places those residents at a particularly and unknowingly high risk. MRNA has taken action to put out a community alert, by email notification, website posting, and briefing at regular neighborhood association meetings, informing residents of the increased risk of gunshots to the east, particularly during early morning and evening hours on weekdays and all day Saturday and Sunday. This is the time gunshots are most commonly heard. I don't know what the Civano and Rita Ranch neighborhood associations are doing to alert their residents.

In MRNA's initial communication with the Mayor and Council, we requested answers to several questions. They were:

1. What priority was assigned to the 911 calls? Not Answered
2. What response was generated as a result of the calls? Answer: TPD responded at 7:57pm (well after dark and after 75+ rounds of unknown caliber were discharged)
3. Was anyone cited for discharge of firearms within City limits? Answer: Officers did not locate anyone and no gunshots heard.

4. Where is our City helicopter? In incidents like this it is understandably difficult for patrol cars to traverse into desert areas. Our TPD helicopter could have made quick work of calls like this if it were in serviceable condition with functioning maintenance crews to keep it flying. Answer: Helicopter was not flying during this time. Why could it have not been dispatched?
5. Since hunting season recently opened, why has not TPD anticipated incidents of hunting within City limits and made off-road TPD units available to respond? Not Answered
6. Why must City residents feel as though they have to alter late afternoon plans and move indoors because people are shooting outside their homes with no apparent response from those who are hired to protect them? Not Answered but directed at Mayor and Council.

MRNA hopes, based on recent 911 calls and action taken by Sector 8 law enforcement, that TPD will conclude there is credible substance to reports of gunshots and will respond quicker to 911 calls in order to catch those that are responsible for discharging firearms inside City limits. We would like the Mayor and Council and TPD to know there IS a problem and there IS a reasonable certainty that Mesquite Ranch residents are being subjected to live gunfire. What elevated 911 call priority should be assigned to this type of issue?

Mayor Walkup recently highlighted "neighborhood safety" and "increasing the number of law enforcement officers" as major campaign issues. This gunfire issue is certainly a relevant and appropriate issue for the Mayor to help resolve. Neighborhood residents should not have to fear going outside or limiting outside activities in their own communities because of consistent LIVE and ILLEGAL gunfire near their homes. Residents should expect a reasonable TPD response to reports of gunfire and local businesses should not go to work to find bullet holes in their vehicles or be subjected to the same gunfire.

In addition, Mayor Walkup should note the routine response from TPD below that states, "However, we are sometimes limited by our available resources and the constantly changing call load demand." I have received the "limited resource" response every time, without exception, when answering 911 call queries. If the City is so strapped for law enforcement officers that it becomes a consistent response, the City needs to acquire more resources! Only the Mayor and Council can resolve this issue. Please help!

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

MRNA recommends the following be implemented immediately:

1. City of Tucson place appropriate signage like "No Hunting" or "No Hunting Here to Wash" signs, with penalty, on Poorman Road and Bilby Road from Houghton Road to Pantano Wash at 1/8 mile intervals.
2. TPD establish a ready response team, preferably off-road, and require a 30 minute response time for 911 calls relating to "shots fired" OR dispatch law enforcement helicopter on all "shots fired" calls to have a serious chance at catching the offenders.
3. TPD inform Neighborhood Association Board of Directors how they can best assist TPD in resolving this problem.

MRNA thanks the Honorable Mayor Walkup and TPD, in advance, for their concerted efforts to stop the gunfire east of Mesquite Ranch subdivision.

Kind regards,  
Randall Pierce  
President

Mesquite Ranch Neighborhood Association

Randy,

This is really unbelievable. The lack of response from Mayor and Council does not surprise me. I have sent them an email expressing my displeasure with their arbitrary decision to reject a grant of \$100,000 from Target Corp to pay for video equipment in the Downtown area to help prevent crime, identify criminals causing damage to private property and those selling drugs. To date I have not received no response...none, nada, zero, zilch, nil. If our elected officials chose not to protect the citizens of Tucson and ignore any correspondence from us, the voting citizens of Tucson, then it is time that we let them know we are tired of being ignored. You and I need to explore our options with the media to bring these issues out in the open.

because that would seem to be the only way we will bring attention the issues at hand.

Furthermore, are you aware that there is the new policy established by a TPD Assistant Chief and TUSD to protect illegal aliens by not alerting the Border Patrol when they are found?

"To serve and protect" is a joke. All talk and no action from the elected officials. I felt more secure serving in the US Army in Viet Nam in 1971-72 than I do living in Tucson 2007.

Terry J. Hlivko  
President-Mesquite Ranch Homeowner's Association

**Terry Hlivko motioned to purchase (3) stone Tec 38 gallon trash containers at \$235.81 each from Sam club seconded by Tricia Hughes and approved by all**

Look into pool key cards

**Adjournment**

**At 8:10 PM Terry Hlivko motioned to adjourn seconded by Della Ellis and approved by all. Next meeting January 17 at 6:30PM in the lobby of the National Storage facility located at National Self Storage and Contract U.S. Postal Facility just off Meadow Willow Trail - near Brake Max. (Houghton and Valencia)**