



Volume 18, Issue 10 October 24, 2006

Web Page: www.clearwatercoalition.com
Email: clearwaterhomeowners@yahoo.com

Next CNC Meeting
Monday, November 6, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.
Long Center Boardroom--Upstairs
1501 Belcher Road--Clearwater



Agenda

- Business Meeting
- Minutes & Correspondence
- Treasurer's report
- Old Business
- New Business--Discussion of the mission, purpose and direction of the Coalition
- Committee Reports

Coming Events of Interest to Homeowners & Neighborhoods

October 31	Halloween Boo Bash at Bright House Networks Field	562-4839
November 4	Clearwater Make a Difference Fishing Tournament at Pier 60	877-236-5437
November 4	Clearwater Veterans Appreciation Day at Long Center 11-2	733-2822
November 4	Northwood West Homeowners Association Neighborhood Garage Sale "If you sell it, they will come!"	
November 4	Chiliblast 2006 State of Florida Championship at Coachman Park 10-3:30	781-6330
November 10	Spirit of American Doughboy and American Navy statues dedication Clearwater Memorial Causeway, East End	562-4852
November 11-12	30th Annual Christmas Under the Oaks Arts & Crafts show Coachman Park 9-4	723-0888
November 17-19	4th Annual Florida Pirate Festival at Coachman Park	562-4839
November 18-19	Downtown Clearwater Arts Festival Downtown & City Hall 12-5	562-4044
November 22-26	22nd Annual Festival of Trees at Harborview Center	712-3993
November 23	St. Petersburg Times Turkey Trot 7:30 a.m.	562-4700
December 3	Clearwater Chorus Concert at Ruth Eckerd Hall 2 p.m.	791-7400



Disaster Preparedness News

Check out the City website at myclearwater.com for their Emergency Management and Hurricane Information page

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2006 MEETING

*Have your directors
names or addresses
changed?*

*Notify Rich
Glasgow (791-
9317) to ensure that
you promptly receive
this newsletter.*

*Ever think about nominating
your neighborhood for the
Neighborhood of the Quar-
ter?*

*E--mail or call Becky
Melendez at 562-4585*

*Doesn't your neighborhood
deserve the recognition?*

1. President Sondra Kerr called the meeting to order, followed by introductions by those present. Chief Jamie Geer of Clearwater Fire and Rescue brought us up to date on his activities the past 2 years with the Clearwater Fire Department. They have gotten back to basics, with daily training and emphasis on professional standards and customer service. Immediate plans include a display and activities at Countryside Mall on October 7 and open house at all stations on October 14, in observance of Fire Prevention Week. Current efforts on high rise fire fighting will set the standard for Pinellas County, and the Chief plans to design model programs for all aspects of fire fighting to achieve the same distinction. An inspection sweep of the City will include all commercial establishments in Clearwater. Question & answer session revealed that in Pinellas County we have the **closest unit** response system, regardless of what jurisdiction is involved. Maintenance of fire hydrants was dominating personnel time and is now the responsibility of the City or County Utility. All hydrants are to be checked every 2 years.

Becky Melendez of Neighborhood Services briefed us on changes to the neighborhood grant program. The new Grant Awards Program replaces the matching grant program and is meant to encourage creativity, number of participants in the neighborhood, volunteerism, and charity. Grants will range from \$ 1000 to \$ 5000 and will entail different types of projects, such as mayor's award for excellence, charity & volunteerism, creativity, best crimewatch, most improved association, best newsletter, etc. Neighborhoods can use pictures, documentation, and presentations to put a different spin on things they already do, such as block parties, hurricane planning, etc. Six different orientation sessions are to be held in November and December. Pre-registration is not necessary, but attendance at one is required for grant eligibility. Funds will be awarded around August, 2007, so projects will be completed before money is received, and a central celebration of awards will be held probably in September, 2007.

2. Minutes of the September 11, 2006 meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.
3. Treasurer's report was approved. October 2 balance was \$ 2,059.14 with about \$950 in the Foundation earmarked for Conference use. 21 current member neighborhoods have provided \$ 840 dues income for 2006, with expenses of \$587.62 paid so far this year. Newsletter expense accounts for \$437 of that amount.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
John Doran presented us with a condensation of the last 5 year City budget general fund (does not include capital improvements and public utilities) which enumerated City employees (FTEs), expenses by category and by department, millage, property tax and taxable value. Thank you, John.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
Elizabeth France of Skycrest neighborhood detailed her work in development of a pocket park in her neighborhood at the corner of S. Mars and Rainbow. This is a small wildlife habitat and teaching area and is being used to apply for a \$7500 grant for the Tampa Bay Estuary program. The property was transferred from the County to the City and leased to a local organization, the Native Plant Society. Native plants are used to replace invasive, exotic plants, and a butterfly garden has been included. The park provides a more natural setting on its Keene Road side. A winding path with signage and information are to be provided. This is a great example of a neighborhood project that improves the area and can qualify for various grants, such as the City Neighborhood Grant Awards program discussed above.

Michael Sobota of Tropic Hills reported many of his residents are upset with the City's reaction to the arbitration decision regarding fire fighter disagreement. Many feel we are "wasting money to fight this decision".

ANNUAL CONFERENCE Discussion on topics for our 2007 conference resulted in a decision to drop the repeat of the workshop on Code Enforcement. We decided to have 2 conference workshop topics, which will be repeated so that all conference attendees may attend both workshops. The first topic will address taxes and include discussion of the TRIM notice, with possibly a panel from the various agencies who receive our property tax monies. The other topic will be the homeowner insurance crisis in Florida.

6. Announcements

Town hall meeting on the insurance crisis will be held October 12.

Drug paraphernalia ordinance for Pinellas County will soon be voted on. (It passed)

7. Meeting adjourned 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Glasgow, Secretary

Disaster Preparedness--It's YOUR RESPONSIBILITY



CNC Membership Application

Association Name _____ #homes/condos _____

Association Mailing Address _____

President _____ Phone # _____

Home Address _____

CNC Rep. _____ Phone # _____

Home Address _____

Alternate Rep. _____ Phone # _____

Home Address _____

E-mail contact _____ Fax contact _____

Annual dues: Individual—\$25; up to 25 homeowners—\$25
more than 25 homeowners—\$40

Payable to CNC, P.O. Box 8204, Clearwater, FL 33758

GETTING PREPARED

Get your Neighborhood Survival Kit at:
clearwatercoalition.com

Gather your supplies from the 3-day & 5-day supply list.

Talk with your family about your personal plans for evacuation, etc.

Call 1-888-689-8905 to get emergency notification text messages on your cell phone used for the call

THE PURPOSE OF THE COALITION

Clearwater's Community Response Team handles code violations. To report a violation call 562-4720.

The Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition has been part of the community since 1981, and its ongoing purpose is to provide a forum for neighborhood associations to voice their concerns about neighborhood issues and to use our combined resources to address those issues effectively.

Issues may include:

- * Code Enforcement
- * Traffic Calming
- * Short Term Rentals
- * Street Lights and Signs
- * No Solicitation Ordinance
- * Crime

To join the Coalition's automatic email distribution list send a request to "Clearwater @pobox.com"

How Do You Contact Us?

Coalition Committees

Coalition Officers 2006

Sondra Kerr	President	447-9126
Bill Murray	Vice Pres.	531-0667
Rich Glasgow	Secretary	791-9317
Doug Williams	Treasurer	725-3345

Neighborhood Services	-----	Becky Melendez
Membership/Newsletter	-----	Rich Glasgow
Chamber of Commerce	-----	Sondra Kerr
Publicity	-----	Sondra Kerr
Webmaster	-----	Dave Campbell
Airpark Advisory Board	-----	Tom Calhoun



P.O. Box 8204
Clearwater, Florida 33758