

UPPER RATTLESNAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2011

- The Annual General Meeting of the Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council was called to order at 6:30 PM by Emily Plant, Acting Chairman of the Council.
- Members of the Council present were introduced, Emily Plant, Susan Snetsinger, Douglas Grimm and Rhonda Holle. Emily welcomed fifty-eight residents of the Upper Rattlesnake and five residents from the Lower Rattlesnake neighborhood.
- Erin Edge the Bear Aware Coordinator, Missoula Bears discussed the wild life population in the Rattlesnake bear buffer zone which is Interstate 90, North. Several ways to deter bears from becoming problems were discussed. \$100.00 incentive program for wire fencing, presently offered to protect livestock such as chickens. Monitoring gardens, ornamental trees, bird feeders and such would help bears coexist with the occupants in the buffer zone.

Jim Carlson, Director, and Ed Francis, Supervisor, both with the Health Department, went over the ordinance governing property owners and their responsibility to keeping their residence compliant with the laws enforcing residents' behavior toward our wildlife. See Ordinance 6.02.030 for more information.

There are approximately 20 bears in the Valley, along with mountain lions, deer and other wildlife. If you see bears and other wildlife that you are not familiar with, you are asked to document the sighting via pictures and either contact Erin at 531-6007, or www.fivevalleyschaptersci.org.

Beth Judy suggested that a letter be sent to Allied Waste requesting later pick up of garbage. More on this to come from Beth!

Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council
Annual Meeting
October 13, 2011

- Rob Scheben, Crime Prevention Officer with the Missoula Police Department discussed crime and prevention for our neighborhoods. Rob indicated that most of the crimes in the Rattlesnake are “Crimes of Opportunity”, simply put; the “opportunity” presents itself, basically easy to walk away with. These crimes are mostly car break-ins of unlocked cars, items in a garage when the garage door is left open and such. Anything and everything needs to be secured.

Officer Scheben also suggests putting in motion detector lighting, clearing shrubbery around windows and corners of your property. He suggested walking around your property at dusk to see if there are areas that may be possible hiding places and would benefit from better lighting or shrub trimming. Also, a privacy fence not only offers you privacy but also offers privacy for a crime.

He also indicated that the best defense is using your eyeballs, such as in neighborhood watches and to call in suspicious activity. It is hard for officers patrolling neighborhoods to know what is considered “unusual” for that particular neighborhood and that the real test is with the residents themselves.

- Emily asked if anyone would like to join the Board. Two willing neighbors offered their assistance, Max Anderson and Caroline Lonski. It was moved by Susan Snetsinger and seconded by Douglas Grimm that Max Anderson and Caroline Lonski be added to the Board. The vote was unanimous.
- Under Public Comment, Maer Seibert mentioned that one of her signs had been stolen. Another citizen asked about our deer population and whether there was anything we can do. It was mentioned the Valley was home to all of the wildlife and the wildlife is slowly returning to their home.

Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council
Annual General Meeting
October 13, 2011

Seeing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Dated this ____ day of October, 2011.

Emily Plant, Co-Chair

Rhonda Holle, Co-Chair