



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

3 February 2009

Parkmore Community Association Incorporated under Section 21 Reg. No.1999/025688/08 PO Box 650508 Benmore 2010

## Notes on the Parkmore Community Meeting

Residents were invited to attend a meeting called by the PCA to discuss crime in the suburb following the death of Frans on 4th Street

PCA Chairman, Neil Pryce opened this Community Meeting by welcoming all residents to the meeting and outlined the intentions of the PCA with particular reference to security and the need from the community to make a **COLLECTIVE EFFORT** to enable positive change.

Neil made the point that Brian Robertson, now operating as the PCA's remunerated Executive Manager, was successfully adding value to the PCA's efforts.

Lance Quiding, PCA Security portfolio head, led the meeting through the presentation which highlighted :-

1. A Historic Timeline of previous security efforts in Parkmore
2. "Diluted Efforts" - how each household contracts to different security companies with each company duplicating infrastructure and cost;
3. Collective Power - 50-75% of the community together could effect significant bargaining and funding power;
4. Community Structure - the PCA operating within a Section 21 company as an accountable business;
5. Current PCA contributors amount to approx.330 households which generated only R29 000 per month for the PCA to function efficiently;
6. 2008-2009 PCA response to the 2007 CID Resident's Concerns Survey showed major improvements in all issues listed as actions of the PCA, and plans for the future;
7. A call for residents to volunteer as board, committee and subcommittee members;
8. The Way Forward - you sign up with the PCA, meet your neighbour, get them to join the PCA at R100 pm.

The presentation is on our website [www.parkmore.org.za](http://www.parkmore.org.za)

Neil, Lance and Brian then responded to resident's questions, comments and suggestions as summarised under the following headings:-

### PROTEACOIN

While residents appreciated the PCA's association with Coin, their comments included :-

- ❖ Coin's marketing efforts in Parkmore are regarded as inadequate from day one and still strongly criticised;
- ❖ The PCA-Coin Agreement and SLA states that Coin would do the marketing, and signup fees paid by debit order to the PCA which includes R80.00 for PCA membership. The PCA then transfers the relevant funds to Coin;
- ❖ There is definite confusion whereby some residents have found that they are paying direct to Coin and therefore are not members of the PCA. This would be a serious contravention of the SLA between Coin and the PCA, and will be addressed;
- ❖ If you are receiving an invoice direct from Coin and are paying them monthly, please contact Brian Robertson who will address the issue.

The 2 - year agreement with Coin comes up for renewal at end of March 2009. The PCA has already started discussions with Coin.

Andy Clay, previous treasurer of the PCA, emphasized that the more residents who become PCA/Coin members automatically means more than the two Coin vehicles on patrol in Parkmore, ultimately leading to as many as six vehicles.

### KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Sharon Louw complained that when they were in trouble in their street not one neighbour came to their aid. Chris Lewis responded that when there was trouble in their street all the neighbours came to the aid of the affected resident, because they have all taken the trouble to get to know each other.

Residents are encouraged to make an effort to contact and get to know your neighbours, encourage them to join the PCA and Coin and discuss local security amongst each of your homes.

### SECURITY CONCERNS

Lance responded to a concern expressed about vacant properties, that there are 16 vacant properties in Parkmore. Coin, Top Security and the SAPS does inspect them all on a regular basis. The owners of 12 have been contacted by Brian and advised of the existing bylaws that govern vacant properties and their owner's responsibilities. The relevant official, who enforces these bylaws, has been alerted and the necessary steps to ensure compliance will be taken

### GETTING RESIDENTS TO JOIN THE PCA

- ❖ Louis Spiers asked for greater communication focus to residents
- ❖ Mr Nkosi, an ANC representative living in Gallo Manor, made a very powerful speech encouraging all residents to contribute the R100 per month to the PCA to mobilise funds for the very worthwhile projects being undertaken by the PCA, and went further to encourage residents to give, not only money, but also of their time and talents to the Community.
- ❖ A resident suggested the site plan of Parkmore, with the contributing residents marked, be posted on the web site so neighbors can be checked to see if they are members or not.
- ❖ Another resident proposed large signs stating "We proudly support the PCA" with the logo fixed to all contributing member's properties. Notice/digital billboards could be set up at strategic points within the suburb to provide notices to the residents of suspicious cars and/or characters, community events and any newsworthy items.

### WHAT DO I GET FOR MY MONEY?

*A good question?*

The PCA will be publishing a promo sheet expanding on this. Residents are asked to look around the suburb and see what has been achieved so far - the holistic management of our suburb, community policing with 24/7 security vehicle patrols, increased SAPS presence, street lights, clear street markings, potholes closed, open space grass cut, illegal signage removed, Blue Bag collections, supporting domestic training, improving George Lea Park, promoting Field+Study sustainability campaign, negotiations with City Parks re-gardens, Jhb Roads about traffic control, JMPD to manage taxi parking, and much more!

**"Parkmore needs you. The PCA has a capable core of volunteers that are looking after your interests. Please make a collective effort, join the PCA and contribute R100 per month and where possible offer your time and talents to help us make Parkmore a proud, safe, sustainable and comfortable suburb for all residents to enjoy"**