



**Neighborhood
Watch
Minutes
Monday, February 9, 2026
Molly Bowden Police Station**

“Our vision is to be the safest city in the state of Missouri.”
“The mission of Columbia Neighborhood Watch is to inform, train and encourage residents to work together to establish neighborhood watch programs with the goal of reducing crime and increasing public safety.”

Call Meeting to Order 6:00

Attendees: Kyle Thornsberry, Jeff Hempstead, Paul, Nancy, Herb, Keith, Ed Darling as a potential board member.

President’s Report

- Police Liaison: Herb, Susan and Keith met with our new CPD rep, Sgt. Kyle Thornsberry.
- Jason has taken a full time position as a co-enforcement specialist with Neighborhood Services as a civilian.
- Discussion of ICE out of Columbia by COMO Neighborhood Watch which is NOT our organization. Neighborhood Watch is a registered trademark. We are registered with MO Secretary of State. They list the Unitarian Church on Shepard Blvd. (Subsequent information is they are not affiliated with the church and only met there once.) Paul and Nancy followed up. Paul talked to individual who was not cooperative. 3 instagram accounts, one is ours/PD, the other anti-ICE, the other random. Action item: Kyle to try and contact the phone number on the handout.

Vice President's Report – Jeff

- Grants update. Filed for 2 grants: State Farm \$1000. Columbia Safety and Supply for \$1000. Both are for new computers.
- Better Business Bureau, invoice for \$100. Jeff paid.
- Invoiced for \$680.40. for Constant Contact. Jeff paid.

Secretary's Report – Susan

- Minutes approved from last meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Keith

See attachment

Dickies: March 18, 4:00 -8 is the next fundraiser.

Board Reports

- Ibrahim – Technology/Social Media. Ibrahim not present, no report.
- Larry, Nancy, & Paul – Captains activity.
 - Larry will be in Arizona next month so is not present for the Feb board meeting.
 - Nancy called all on her list. About half have called back. Only have 2 captains on the list still active. They are planning on attending training at library.
 - Paul presented a working document for the role of the block captains liaison. If any board member has additional ideas for this document, please forward to Paul and Nancy.
 - Don Lang, block captain in Thornbrookm contacted Jeff. He is serving for 3 different streets and needs to break them up. Jeff supplied who had been trained on each street. Gave him the flyer for the March training in Thornbrook. One street needs 3 more people trained. The other streets need 2 additional homes trained.

Upcoming Events

Old Business

- Graveside service for Molly on 2/10 at 10:00 at COSMO. Wear shirts and hats.
- Molly's Mile: April 25th 8 – 10:00 a.m. is the event date and time. There was an email meeting in January. They made a decision on the design of shirts – only outcome. No one has stepped up to take over the running of the event.
- March 16th at 6:30 public training at Thornbrook. Board members to be there at 6:00.

- April 20 or 23rd at library. Cannot contact the library until 45 days in advance. 20th is the preferred date. Jeff will contact library.
- Board Member Contract. Herb handed out the proposed document. All board members to review and send comments to Herb. We will vote on it next meeting.
- COMO Neighborhood Watch ICE OUT OF COLUMBIA. Follow up from Nancy and Herb. See President report above. Jeff used AI to generate the difference between ICE COMO Neighborhood Watch and Columbia Neighborhood Watch.
- Indemnification clause for bylaws. Spring Walton generated one for us which Herb passed out. She suggests we put it in our by-laws. We will vote on it next meeting.
- New laptops for board members. Jeff has spec'd out a tower and laptops. We also lose our non-profit Microsoft version. Laptops are around \$1500 and the tower is more. Trade-ins may reduce cost. Probably can get the software through Techsoup. Herb proposed we make the purchase. We can use the \$5K from the city grant. Motion passed. Herb and Jeff will make arrangements with Keith and Susan.

New Business

- Discussion of Ed Darling as a new board member. Board approved.