



December 2020 Broadmoor Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

7:03-7:02: Welcome from BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard

7:03:-7:04 Introduction of Agenda

- Presentation from District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls regarding recent public safety concerns
- Presentation from Sarah Pritchard, BIA Executive Director, on 2020 BIA achievements and goals for 2021
- Green infrastructure challenge opportunity
- Questions and concerns from meeting attendees

7:10-7:38: Introduction of District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls

- Crime is down 2% in Broadmoor compared to other areas of New Orleans.
- Armed Robbery and shootings have picked up. Broadmoor is up 15 armed robberies compared to 2019. The detectives and officers have been making very good arrests in many of the cases with a 50% clearance rate in armed robberies.
- Shootings have been retaliatory type shootings which has been developed in other districts and bled over into the Broadmoor area.
- The biggest issue right now is juvenile crimes which have progressed into armed robberies.
- District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls asks residents if they have any questions.
- A resident asked "Has car theft gone up in our neighborhood?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls replies "Yes, we have had an increase in auto thefts and burglaries. It involves juvenile repeat offenders." The residents continued "The thefts seemed brazen and then we called the police or 311, it really was not helpful." District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls says "Call 911, and describe the crime to step it up to priority."
- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard asks if anyone on zoom has a question. BIA Wellness Director Bethanie asks "From a wellness standpoint, What is happening for the

young people in the evening obviously COVID-19 has impacted the way we are able to be together in the community and that opens up opportunities for crimes to happen. We as a world are facing so much more economic hardship there is an air of desperation present in what we are seeing. Can you speak to the collaboration between the district and your department with the city and broader approaches for support and assistance to young people so that crime is not the only extra curricular activity available to the youth?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls answers " We identify our juvenile offenders and meet with their parents. Myself and my district lieutenant go out ourselves to get parents to voluntarily enroll their children into different programs like [The First 72+](#) and other outreach groups programs available to them. We have actually charged some parents for failure to supervise, the reason we charge the parents is because there is something going wrong at home which in other districts they use for curfew violations."

- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard opens up the discussion to people who are in person with questions and also asks "What can individuals do to help to prevent some of the crimes such as property crimes and also protect themselves?"
- A resident asks about if District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls met with [the new District Attorney Jason Williams](#) and if you have any messages from him?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls replies "We have not heard anything yet, we have reached out to him but have not heard back as of right now. I look forward to having a conversation with him and his team. We have a good acceptance rate over 95% and what we will see is a lot of cases being used as divergents, the biggest difference will be in our lower crimes and drug violations at certain levels."
- A resident asks "What is being done for a more proactive response to crime in our area?" BIA Executive Sarah Pritchard informs District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls that "The question is from a resident who is concerned about increased activity such as people pulling doors and stealing stuff out of cars and he sees really no patrols in his area. Is there a way to request more patrols in his part of the neighborhood?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls replies "On a daily basis, our patrols are fluid and move based on crime concerns and geo deployment where we deploy police to certain areas of the city on a regular basis. Broadmoor does have officers assigned to our area however based on crime trends and based on crime trends we add extra officers to certain parts depending on when we have crime that occurs. We do a lot of undercover work to drive crime elements out of zone through blue light packaging by patrolling areas and making arrests by foot. Broadmoor is relatively quiet during the day time, its more of our 3pm to later at night is when we have problems with auto burglars and that is when we are addressing most of our problems with auto burglaries in the area."
- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard states a resident mentioned that he has been seeing these offenses take place in the middle of the day. District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls asks if the resident has video. BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard asks if she could share contact information with this resident to which District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls answers please that would be great also please send along the video for us to identify the person committing the crime.

- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard asks another resident's question which is "How is the forced time off affecting your readiness and strength as a force?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls answers "We have adjusted the man power so there is little effect, losing 10% of your man power is going to affect you, we try to adjust it so that on a heavy day we have the most working and we schedule the leave without pay day for that particular day but it affects morale as well. It is a difficult thing and unfortunately it is what we have to do. It is a tough time for everyone and we have suck it up and move forward. Motivate the officers to continue their jobs, the reasons they joined the force which was not for a pay check or anything like that. So like I said it is difficult but we are managing. We went through this under the Landrieu administration and we will get through it." BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard thanks District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls and she states "I think it's clear to me, a lot of what we are seeing now is a result of both the way of which programs for young people are not available because of the pandemic and the economic hardships. There is a lot people can do to protect themselves, folks are actively looking to take advantage of where they can. In addition to the things we all know such as not leaving anything valuable in your car, car running and making sure doors are locked to prevent and protect yourself. Captain Wells is there anything else that people can do?" District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls states "If something does not feel right drive off, listen to your sixth sense, lighting can help prevent crime and video cameras as well as home security. If you want you can register with [SafeCam Nola](#). SafeCam NOLA is a community safety initiative that allows residents and businesses to partner with NOPD in the fight against crime. Try not make yourself a victim by not leaving valuables in your car."
- A resident states "I have a security camera all around my house with 24/7 recording up to 3 weeks on a hard drive, I turn it over to NOPD and nothing ever happens. I never have follow ups with arrests, I have been in Broadmoor ten years." District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls says "Some information we can not share." A resident says "Your suggestions are great, I have the lights and the cameras and signs about security cameras that do not help. If there are no patrols, people are going to keep pulling door handles." District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls asks "Did you call 911?" BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard states she will connect the resident with District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls for further discussion of his issue.
- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard addresses a Zoom attendee question about the neighborhood's decision to not use the parcel fee for a security district. BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard states "That decision was made by a number of residents who participated in a process through research we found that there is actually no research that suggests that private security patrols decrease crime. Hiring a private detail security team for the whole Broadmoor neighborhood would cost more than our current parcel fee amount. We believe that the type of services and public programs that the BIA provides actually help to meet people's needs in a way that prevents the kind of desperation that can lead to crime that we have been discussing. It helps to make us all safer because the quality of life overall is much higher. We can have a conversation off line if people want to talk about this issue some more."

- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard thanks District 2 NOPD Captain Jeffrey Walls and says she will connect him with residents who are experiencing issues in their area of Broadmoor
- 7:38-7:53: 2020 BIA Achievements and Goals for 2021
- Thanks to residents and dedicated volunteers, the BIA has responded to the needs of our community due to COVID-19.
- Distributed 6,000+ prepared meals to seniors and other vulnerable neighbors, many of which were delivered to residents' homes.
- The BIA partnered with [the Humana Foundation](#) to support 3 local food entrepreneurs by providing funding to provide the meals. It is a great way to support local Broadmoor businesses and people in need in our community with some food support.
- Doubled the average number of families served per month at the Broadmoor Food Pantry, from 250 to over 500 families served every month. With over half of the families living in the 70125 zip code.
- In April and May, The BIA Called over 3,500 seniors in the 70125 zip code to get them connected to resources during the lockdown.
- Our social work team created a coping guide as well as a guide for parents dealing with the shut down.
- We provided 100s of hours of donation based counseling which made our services radically available to residents has been really important.
- We have connected dozens of residents with SNAP assistance as well as their stimulus checks and we have gotten them signed up for unemployment benefits. If you know anyone struggling and unfamiliar with these resources please connect us so that we can help them have access.
- We were able to host two Days of Service. We cleaned catch basins, mulched trees with [SOULNOLA](#) and pick up trash.
- Thanks to a resident named Sable, we have started weekly "Broadmoor Trash Tuesdays" trash pick up which will start back up in January. All residents are welcome to help with our community cleanup effort in different parts of the neighborhood. Visit our [Broadmoor Trash Tuesday Facebook Event Page](#) for more information. Let the BIA know of areas in our neighborhood that are in need of a cleanup to be prioritized during our weekly clean ups.
- Development began on 7 properties owned historically by the BIA that had been from the post-katrina days. This year, the BIA received funding to redevelop and start on those projects. One property has been sold and two are on the market and the BIA will begin construction on the other properties in 2021.
- In terms of green infrastructure and water mitigation, A partnership with Tulane university has been built to revitalize the community garden on Toledano street known as [the Broadmoor Food Forest](#) as well as the Broadmoor Rain Garden on General Taylor which recently has been cleaned up thanks to a team of Tulane student volunteers and the designers of the site. The BIA will have an ongoing partnership with Tulane to help

maintain both the Broadmoor Rain Garden and the Broadmoor Food Forest to revitalize both sites as useable and accessible for the neighborhood.

- The BIA also worked with [TBG Urban Design Firm](#) pro bono on flood management and water migration.
- We are now seeking partnerships with the city and other funders.
- In terms of neighborhood cohesion, we have adopted a mass text message service called hustles for residents to receive updates on neighborhood news from the BIA. Email communications@broadmoorimrpovement.com with your name and telephone number to be added to our list.
- In response to the uprisings in response to the police murder of George Floyd this summer, we hosted a series of trainings and community conversations on the need to uplift racial justice and prioritize racial justice initiatives in the neighborhood. The BIA will continue the conversations in the new year and would love residents participation if interested.
- First Trick or TreatMoor was hosted in Broadmoor which was a socially distant event for families to come together on the lawn of Rosa Keller Library to celebrate Halloween. The BIA will be looking for ways to come together that are pandemic safe through 2021 to really boost neighborhood cohesion.
- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard asks if anyone has questions about the 2020 Achievements she discussed. A resident asked "Where are the properties that the BIA owns?" BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard answers "They are located in different areas of Broadmoor and she could discuss offline the exact locations of properties if needed. The three that we developed had structures on them already that we redeveloped on Robert St, Lopez St, and Jefferson St. The four remaining properties are currently vacant lots, we will be building homes on them with the help of an architect to make sure the architecture is in line with the neighborhood." The resident continues with their question "Is it the BIA that owns these properties? Who is deciding what gets done and when they go up for sale? Where is the money going? Is it going to the BIA?" BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard answers "[New Orleans Redevelopment Authority](#) initially owned the lots and so the BIA post-Katrina, redeveloped over 50 homes in the neighborhood by working with The New Orleans Redevelopment Authority to secure lots and make them available as housing again for residents. The lots owned by the BIA now are lots left over from that time that we have not had the funding to develop until now. In terms of the money, much of the sales of the homes is being reinvested into developing the new homes being built on the vacant lots. Five out of the seven properties are affordable housing because of our agreement with NORA when we initially secured the lots. Two out of those five will be 120% area median income and three will be 80% area median income. The homes sold at market rate will subsidize the affordable housing properties."
- In 2021, the BIA will continue responding to urgent needs of the neighborhood as a result of the pandemic and expanding access to healthy food through the Community Garden and Broadmoor Food Pantry.

- The BIA will continue to work using the strategic plan out together to implement green infrastructure and water management.

7:53-7:54: The Green Infrastructure Challenge

- A team of neighbors can apply and receive funding for a green infrastructure project in their neighborhood. Organizations are not eligible and the BIA would love to support individuals in Broadmoor who are interested in applying and putting together a team. Please reach out to us and we would love to support you as your application and help implement the project when you receive funding.

7:54-7:58: Get Involved in Broadmoor

- Join the Community Gardens Working Group. The BIA seeks all green thumbs interested in giving back to the community to join the team supporting the maintenance of the community garden at the Broadmoor Food Pantry.
- Join the BIA's Board. The BIA is governed by a board of commissioners who are elected by their neighbors. There are vacancies on the board at the end of this year. Any folks interested in Board service? We would love to talk to you about that. The BIA's board helps to shape the strategic priorities and direction of the organization. Board members meet monthly.
- Justine Boone is the 2021 Board President, a New Orleans native who moved to Broadmoor a few years ago and got involved. He states he is honored to be Board President in 2021 and wants to make sure Broadmoor comes out of this pandemic a shining example for our fellow neighborhoods and residents. As Sarah mentioned, you can join the board. One of the best ways to make your voice be heard in this organization is to show up to our board meetings. If you are interested in having a more in depth conversation about our board meetings. You can email communications@broadmoorimprovement.com as well as myself justin@broadmoorimprovement.com and I will give you a direct call and we can talk about ways you can be involved and utilize your strengths to strengthen our neighborhood as a whole. I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. Please make sure to stay safe and make sure gatherings are small. If you are gathering with friends or family make sure to social distance the way through this next year is to fight through this pandemic right now. I hope everyone has a Happy New Year and I am excited to be your incoming present. Thanks everyone.

- Volunteer with the BIA. Can't commit to monthly meetings but want to give back to Broadmoor? The BIA is always looking for volunteers to support the Broadmoor Food Pantry and serve on advisory committees to the Board.

7:58-8:08: Community Announcements

- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard asks if there are announcements from in-person and virtual attendees.
- A resident who moved to Broadmoor in 2019 states “I have observed on my daily walks two buildings under construction. The distinctive characteristics of the home being resonated are important to the essence of the historic nature of Broadmoor being obliterated. Anyone who walks the Arts & Wellness Trail or drives down Napoleon Avenue can not miss the monstrosity of a structure that has been extracted in this area. The perfectly respectful 20s era house with a wide central staircase was being gutted from the inside out. The original house is completely obliterated and now Napoleon Avenue is now marbled by a monstrous structure that is a mashup of styles and construction. On South Tonti, a two story building with vintage characteristics, this has all been totally renovated and gutted from the inside out. All of the 20s elements have been rid of perfectly modern features. Any unique essences of these structures are gone. On South Johnson street, another home which is a single family home has been raised up to create a multi-plex structure. The only evidence of its previous appearances is its roof and the bay window on the side of the building that was a part of the single family home. There is another building on Jena Street, I watched all of the beautiful 20s curvature arch ways and window frames be stuccoed over and boarded up. It is now a modern home structure with no resemblance of its former self. So I ask what is going on here? Are they gutted and built for affordable housing? Are we facing a double dorm conversion? I believe it's time for the BIA to notice what is happening here and to protect and perseverance in our neighborhood. I would hope that the home owners are committed to preserving the significance of their properties and our neighborhood at large. Let's open up a discussion in January. I do want my partner to say a few words. We need to pay attention to what is happening here or Broadmoor will not be Broadmoor.”
- As we look at the risk of developments in Broadmoor, we are fortunate that we do not have major construction such as an overpass in our area. Our crisis is one of creeping and no less urgent that is quiet and less disbursed. Doubles into dorms, permit violations, no design review, zoning issues and demolition by neglect, gentrification and so called investment opportunities. We need more vigilance and a solution to mitigate this issue. We want to be part of the solution and find ways for the BIA to be part of the solution. Thank you very much.
- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard thanks the residents for speaking and notes she can connect them with other residents who are interested in continuing the conversation about this topic.

8:08 8:09: Closing of November Neighborhood Meeting

- BIA Executive Director Sarah Pritchard thanks for attending the meeting. She states Happy Holidays and we will see you at the January neighborhood meeting.
- The January neighborhood meeting will be on Monday, January 18, 2020, at 7 pm. The next meeting will be hosted in-person outdoors on the lawn of the Rosa Keller Library weather permitting. The neighborhood meeting will also be made available via live-stream until the end of the year.