

TOWN OF RED HOOK BOARD MEETING
October 29, 2007

A special community forum meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Red Hook Firehouse, 42 Firehouse Lane, Red Hook at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump
 Councilman James Ross
 Councilwoman Sue Crane
 Councilman Harold Ramsey
 Councilwoman Lisa Pullaro
 Town Clerk Sue McCann

Supervisor Blum Bump opened the meeting with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

The purpose of the community forum is a presentation on personal and home safety. Representatives from the Village of Red Hook Police Department – J. Griffin and Patrick Hildenbrand the Dutchess County Sheriff Department – Todd Grieb and Dave Michitsch and from the N.Y. State Police – Frank Stabel and Nick Banberry.

Deputy Todd Grieb of the D.C. Sheriff's Office gave a power point presentation on "Home and Personal Security".

Burglary Information:

- Each year in the U.S. there are more than five million burglaries
- 9 out of 10 of these crimes are preventable
- Most break-ins occur during the daytime
- Most break-ins are committed by teenagers.
- 80% of break-ins are through a door.
- Only 1 in 4 home burglaries involves forced entry
- Vacant home are inviting targets

Lighting:

- Put bright lights over porches and walkways
- Consider motion sensitive lights
- Mount lights out of reach so that burglars cannot unscrew bulbs
- Use a timer
- Trim trees and shrubs near doors and windows

Time: make it time consuming to break into your home

- Make sure all doors and windows have working locks
- Garage and shed doors need working locks

Noise:

- Install alarm system.

Other thing you can do!

- Keep shades or curtains in your home closed after dark
- Keep ladders stored in a locked shed or garage
- Organize a neighborhood watch and post signs

If you are away:

- Have someone mow your lawn
- Have someone take in your mail or cancel mail
- Park an extra car or have a neighbor park in your driveway
- Let neighbors know you will be out of town
- Call the sheriff's office and request a property check-there is no charge
- Patio and garage doors should be locked
- Disconnect electric overhead doors while away
- Ensure outside doors are solid. Hollow core can be kicked in.
- Use timers on your lights

After the presentation all three police agencies answered questions from residents.

Barbara Jeck and Maureen Haege representatives from a Red Hook neighborhood watch program were introduced. They briefly explained the events in their neighborhood which led up to them forming a neighborhood watch. Along with the police agencies they would be very happy to help other residents if they want to start a neighborhood watch in their neighborhoods.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk