Dear Residents

Many thanks to all of you for attending the meeting last night and also to those of you who could not attend but either forwarded your apologies or questions.

We will now put the past behind us. The LWRA Committee apologies unreservedly for not holding a public meeting to discuss the new developments – at the time we were just trying to ensure we had safety measures in place. We do thank Anver for arranging the meeting so that everyone can be clear on the way forward.

For those who could not attend the meeting: - it was agreed that CMS was our old service provider and that SABER TACTICAL will now be our new security company. CMS were thanked for their efforts in the past. For those whose alarms are with CMS – nothing will change and CMS assured us their patrol car will remain in our area to attend to our alarms.

For those who want to change to SABER TACTICAL – you are welcome to contact them directly to make your own arrangements.

We also have planned an AGM for the 30th September at Benoni Lake Club at 18.30. We will ensure a full presentation of the new company is made so that everyone can feel secure about their safety. We attach a brief profile on SABER TACTICAL in the meantime.

Our goal now is to get the infrastructure up and running as fast as possible – We were hoping to have all the cameras operational by Friday but to be safe we now think we will be fully automated from next week Friday. This will include full camera surveillance linked to SABER TACTICAL’s 24/7 control room.

Further security measures will be added shortly including an automated vehicle recognition system. This means that as residents approach the boom, the camera will read your number plate, compare it to the data on the system to ensure it is your car and open the boom for you. If however a vehicle arrives which is wanted in connection with a crime, the vehicle will be allowed into the area but immediately all systems will be automatically alerted – the patrol cars, special ops vehicles, SAPS and the control room. The vehicle will immediately be blocked by SABER’S response team and occupants stopped and searched.

SABER TACTICAL are also planning to install monitors at the gates, which will show you what is being recorded at the boom – so you can be secure that the cameras are actually working! Do remember to smile when you approach! We don’t want recordings of unhappy residents!

They have already proved they have a good relationship with the SAPS and when they noticed a suspicious vehicle driving in our area last weekend they immediately called SAPS and insisted on a stop and search – the occupants were illegals and crow bars and other tools used in house robberies were found in their boot. The men were arrested. They do intend to continue to do random stop and searches to ensure our suburb is free of drugs and other illegal trade.

They have also promised to assist us and EMPD in bringing to book the drivers who speed through our peaceful suburb like maniacs, jump stop streets or drive with no number plates – these drivers seem to think they are on a higher plane that the rest of us – BUT we do hope to arrest them and where possible have them put in jail – if even for a couple of hours. SABER TACTICAL and EMPD have promised to work together on this project.

In fact SABER TACTICAL are working hard at establishing an excellent working relationship with the Benoni SAPS; EMPD and the Community Policing Forum (CPF) – all very positive steps to ensuring our safety.
The new Admin Service providers MWRK will also be in attendance so you can meet them. Their offices are in Edward Street, which makes sorting out any queries easy. You will be able to address any questions to them on the night.

MWRK up to now have been our Auditors. They will present the February year-end financials and then resign as our auditors. LWRA is in the process of appointing a new auditor for February 2015-year end. Any suggestions of auditors in our area are welcome.

We will again begin a serious drive to get more residents to contribute. We are in discussion with SABER TACTICAL on ways we can ensure that paying residents get through the booms quickly and easily and non-payers or visitors have a bit more of a challenge.

We do hope to advise you further on this matter at the AGM – and also what can be done about the tags we all purchased with the old system.

In terms of the funds collected for the spikes at the last fund drive – this money has been in an attorney’s Trust account (earning interest) until full information is available to make a proper decision. We can perhaps use it to tighten security along the golf course or railway line – both still areas of vulnerability.

CMS had installed quite a few of their own cameras and returned to us the cameras initially installed. We do hope to be able to use these on volatile areas – either where we regularly have people jumping stop streets, or along vulnerable perimeters. They will be linked the SABER TACTICAL control room

As a Committee we have many projects that we would like to tackle relating to LAKEWEST:-

- A drive to get more residents contributing to our enclosure
- Getting new street signs where old ones are missing or rusted
- Where possible closing off through fares and easy access routes – but doing this within the framework of our laws [our roads sadly are public roads and we are not allowed to legally stop anyone from coming through] – and thus reducing traffic volume
- Ensuring the Council is kept on their toes to give us the service we pay them for (Leigh has been doing an excellent job of this already!)
- Vacant stands that owners allow vagrants to camp out on
- Building sites that destroy our infrastructure (like damage to our roads or cutting down our beautiful trees) or harbour criminals
- Roosters crowing at sunrise!
- Meet and greet new owners moving into the area – and of course try and ensure they sign up for LWRA!
- More Community based projects – like the Halloween, Easter Egg Hunt, Ramadan Winter Charity Walk and Concert in the Park (diarise this 4th October) Thanks to Joanne who has been our star organiser!

We urge you to attend the AGM on the 30th Sep and get involved. It is quite fun to blame everyone for all that is wrong in our suburb – but equally – it is much better to be involved and understand all the inherent problems and then roll up your sleeves and make a difference. We need eager residents to help us tackle all the above issues.

For and behalf of the LWRA Committee.

SABER TACTICAL
TEL 011-782-6651 (CONTROL ROOM) PUT THIS NUMBER IN YOUR PHONES NOW!!
TO ARRANGE FOR AN ALARM WITH SABER CONTACT WAYNE ON 083 609 5122 OR info@sabertactical.co.za

PLEASE NOTE OUR ANNUAL AGM WILL TAKE PLACE ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT BENONI LAKE CLUB AT 18.30. ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME!
COME AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

THE LAKEWEST RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION
Operating as a company not for gain in terms of section 21 of the Company act 61/1973
Registration No: 1998/017959/08
Directors : A. Ahmed; B. Davis; G. Holdsworth; M. Schneier