

South Ambergris Caye Neighborhood Watch



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Safest Neighborhood in Belize

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NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00pm

SomePlace South CafeBar

SACNW Meeting Minutes

November 9th, 2022

SomePlace South CafeBar

Present:

EC - Richard Huebner, Randy Watts, Kate Corrigan, Martin Reisner, Ana Lausen, Al Domesick

Members and Guests – 22

President's Welcome: Randy Watts opened the meeting thanking everyone for attending. Randy thanked the Patrol officer for their hard work and the owners of SomePlace South for hosting the meeting. Advised that questions are welcome after each segment

Treasure's Report: Ana Lausen presented the September Treasure's Report
Ana thanked all and confirmed that we collected \$13,125 BZ

SACNW October Financials

Income

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Contributions | <u>\$13,125</u> |
| Total Monthly Income | \$ 13,125 |

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| EDC Bank Charges | \$ 137 |
| Banking – Other | \$ 3 |
| Total Expenses | <u>\$ 140</u> |

Payroll Expense

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Salaries | \$11,302 |
| Social Security Expense | <u>\$ 1,004</u> |
| Total Payroll Expense | <u>\$12,306</u> |

Transportation Expense

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Golf Cart repair | <u>\$ 474</u> |
| Total Transportation Expenses | \$ 474 |

Other Expenses

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Water | \$ 100 |
| Total Operating Expenses | <u>\$ 13,020</u> |

Total Income \$ 105

Total Cash in Bank \$ 41,250

Please remember that SACNW operates solely on member contributions! All contributions are used for Patrol Salaries and expenses needed to operate i.e., Golf Cart repairs, Fuel, Bank Fees etc. All administrative costs are volunteer and donations!

Security Report: SACNW Lead Patrol Officer Mr Coy presented the Security Report:

During the month of October to November:

27 people were stopped, searched, and escorted out of area
2 dog problems
Helped 3 groups with golf cart problems
One with Gas

Friday October 14th, 2022, 3:15pm – Patrol was informed of a traffic accident. Arriving traffic officer was at the scene. Police took over the situation. RRR was called and responded.

Wednesday October 26th, 2022, 5:00 am - Patrol along with Police detained one suspicious person walking the beach

Friday November 4th 11:52pm - Patrol stop a 6-seater golf cart with 1 male and 2 females, one of the females was on the top of the cart. The driver was informed of his wrongdoing and was asked about his intention.

Security comments by Mr Coy

Patrol is monitoring boats during the night as there has been heightened activity of beach walkers now using docks.

Asst. Superintendent Reyes thanked SACNW for the help that they provide in the South area in Ambergris Caye. He confirmed that with winds coming in from a new direction they bring in substances that the beach walkers are looking for. They know that they can be found on land easier, so they now walk the area and are using boats and docks to escape the area quickly.

Superintendent Alejandro Cowo was introduced as the new chief for the area. He stressed how important the monitoring at the control points were in keeping this given area safe. The word is out that we are protecting the area.

Mr Alejandro expressed his gratitude and commended us for keeping the police alert and making known to those that try to infiltrate the area that it is kept safe. He commented that the cleanup from the hurricane and securing areas has almost completed.

Audience Q & A

Q. With the increase in unwanted visitors from the water do the coastguard assist patrol with sea patrol?

A Mr Reyes – confirmed that the Coastguard are a separate entity but although on hand do not have the smaller boats or manpower to be able to assist with daily patrols.

Q. If an accident happens where a tourist is involved can they be held until they have been cleared of blame so that any \$\$ that should be paid by them can be collected?

A. Mr Reyes - Magistrate can hold and charge but it is up to the Magistrate to manage the payment or take them to court. If it is a serious injury, they can be detained but

these details would have to be established before their flight leaves. Contact details are kept if indeed they need to be reached but being able to claim back from them can be difficult when not in country.

Q – Member gave the example of the employee that was injured by the tourist. She ended up with a fractured L2. She also had to go to Guatemala for 2nd opinion and perhaps surgery. A Fundraiser was held and \$6,500 was raised for her travel and medical costs. The tourists denied doing the crime. The tourists left the next day and have not been held accountable.

A. Mr Reyes - The police questioned several persons whom at the time had no proof that the tourist hit the employee while riding her bicycle. The initial report from the doctor showed no real injury at the time. At the time there was nothing to hold the tourists. The report was given in good time but due to the above evidence they were not able to hold accountable.

The Police cannot give names and details of a person, but the identity can be shared through the embassy level

Q – Member brought up how important it is to know our patrol and asked if there was a way that their identity could be shared

A. It was discussed that an image of the 5 Patrol Officers would be posted in the Patrol station for review of the south neighborhood members should owners want to familiarize themselves.

Mr. Reyes – Welcomed the suggestions and confirmed that our local police want to have a proactive approach we take best practices from around the world to address our island security and how it is managed.

New Business:

Road - Culverts for Road

Town Council made sure BEL replaced the damaged manhole cover by Marins Store. Crock pond road area was filled and wall was rebuilt prior to the Hurricane. Town Council is sourcing better product from the mainland to fix the road.

Member comment - the Roads South are looking better especially after the rain.

Fund Raiser – Al Domescik presented

Date Sunday February 5th beginning at 1 pm.

Line Up - Kelly Maguire is confirmed and may bring a friend, a Latina Singer, the AC Guitar Circle have been invited to play for an hour at the beginning of the event.

Raffles – There will be two.

- 1- a large \$5000 BZ prize – Tickets are on Sale. 100 tickets at a cost of \$100BZ each will be sold by EC members and be available for purchase at the Front Street Keller Williams Real Estate Office next to Patz Delicatessen.

2 - smaller \$10bzd per ticket sold on the day of the fundraiser, with draws periodically through the evening.

We are looking for Great prizes- jungle tours, hotel stays etc.

If members want to donate cash or prizes all are welcome - please contact any EC member.

Winners do not have to be present to win. Winning numbers will be posted online and you will be able to claim up to 2 weeks after the date.

501 3 (c) Dick Huebner

EC Member Richard Huebner is managing the process and confirmed, a 501 3 c status allows US citizens to reduce their taxes in the US. We intend to submit in January 2023. We are 1 document short to accomplishing this and should have in time for the status to be in place by the 1st quarter of 2023

Social Media – Kate

Reminded community that there is a Facebook Page and web page and to please like and share

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SACNW>

Web Page <https://www.sacnw.org/>

What's On South This month

Saturday, 12th November - SACNW Trash Pick Up - Meet 7am Patrol Station gloves and bags provided. This was completed and fun was had by all.

Randy Watts thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned @7:45 pm.

You can now make donations via Venmo. The QR Code for Venmo is on our website as well as on Sand Filled Bottles with SACNW information on the bottle label have been placed on many bars in San Pedro i.e., Someplace South, Sandy Toes, etc. The QR Code can be scanned, and anyone can make an immediate donation to SACNW.

To Donate by credit or debit card you can go to www.SACNW.org.

Credit Card donations are also accepted at Black Orchid and SomePlace South.

For Cash or Check Donations, please drop off at Barrier Reef Drive office of Ambergris Seaside Realty – Josh Buettner.

Please email us with any questions, comments, or suggestions to www.SACNW.org.

SACNW Mission Statement to deter crime, promote community spirit and create an environment that encourages awareness and continual improvement with our area.