



NyariNEWS

The Nyari Residents Welfare Society Newsletter

Quarter 1 / 2015

Chairman's Report

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Finances

Estate finances are in good shape and we have reserves to enable the estate to run for at least six months if all payments were suddenly to stop. That is why we maintain a reserve. The money we have in reserve is maintained in a fixed deposit, which, even though we have to pay taxes on its gains, grows and keeps members' money working even as it sits in reserve.

We are looking at beefing up the guards co-operative holdings with a view to being able to help them sort out legal cases, like the one we recently had to help them fight, out of their own funds should the need arise. The Co-op holdings at present only amount to approximately KSh. 170,000. Any court case would of course consume much more than that.

Kirit Shah and Geoffrey Naituli continue to maintain the accounts in exemplary condition with our office manager Karanja entering the data into our accounting system. Within a few months we will once again be sending off

The Chairman and Members of the Executive Committee would like to wish all Nyari Residents a happy and prosperous New Year

these figures to our auditors to have them look over our handywork to approve it for final presentation at the Annual General Meeting and then to adopt it into the running of NRWS.

There are still a few members who freebie off the goodwill of others and we ask that you don't do this but do bring your dues up to current. If you are a resident that knows of such members we request that you approach them and let them know that the security we enjoy in Nyari (Nyari is considered the safest estate to live in in Nairobi), the street lighting, the internet access, the roads, the environment and much, much more all comes about as a result of the harambee effort of all members whose contributions are all put to good effect through the committee.

We spent a peaceful and uneventful holiday season on the security front. We have the Security Subcommittee to thank for this. Their vigilance continues to pay dividends. It behooves all of us to continue to watch our neighbourhood carefully. If you see anything suspicious please do report your concerns to the Nyari office. There are several on-going construction projects within the estate and these sites have, in the past, been found to be the source from where thugs come. The days the staff on those sites are paid are particular troublesome. If you are running a construction project we urge you to stagger your payment days and not let anyone know that you are going to be brining money on site. Today we have MPesa and AirTel Money and if you can pay all or the majority of your staff through those modalities then so much the better.

We recount a story we've just heard. In a neighbouring residential area a homeowner headed into her house at 8pm one evening after a long slog through the traffic of industrial area. Using her remote gate opener she opened her gate then closed it behind her. As she alighted from her car a thug carrying a large gun (from the description - an AK47), accosted her and threatened to harm her if she did not cooperate. Another thug pointed a handgun at her. The two then proceeded to bundle her into the boot of her car and drove off after they used her remote to open the gate. Her husband had been in the house at the time and had seen what happened. He alerted his residential association security people who promptly contacted the police who in turn started circulating the car number. The thugs did not go very far. In the South 'C' part of Nairobi they dropped the woman unharmed and made off with the vehicle which was discovered a few kilometres from where the lady had been dropped. The interesting part of this story is this: All through her drive to South 'C' the owner of the car, sitting at gun-point on the back seat, listened to a radio with police speaking on it. She heard her car number mentioned several times but could not understand

what the thugs were saying to each other. They were obviously much troubled by the radio chatter and she thinks they let her go so quickly and abandoned her car a short way away because of the prompt action her husband took and the circulaiton of the car number by the police.

This long story to point out some salient features of this robbery. First entering your house day or night is a vulnerable point. Be careful and watchful as you stand at the gate waiting for it to be opened and once you are inside your compound coming out of your car. Secondly, don't resist; you can always buy another car, you can't easily get your health back once you are injured. In all robberies the perpetrators want to get away as quickly as possible. Don't get in their way. Give them what they want and let them go. Thirdly, prompt action by those around you can only work if you communicate what is going to your neighbourhood association as quickly as possible. In Nyari we are very fortunate to have a Police Post that we constructed all those years back and whose staff especially the new Senior Corporal Ochieng (+254 722 506042) is really on the ball and doing his job extremely well. The Police Post is one cog in a well-oiled machine the other parts being the numerous guards we have, the barriers, the radio and cell phone network and of course the security subcommittee members. The entire thing works as a smooth machine and is the primary reason the NRWS exists and for what you pay your monthly dues.

The security subcommittee is in the process of purchasing another two handsets to complement our current 'fleet.' We are looking for Motorola GP300 radios complete with new batteries and a carry case. If you have any information regarding where we can source these please contact the office urgently.

