

Meeting Minutes for July 26th, 2018

College Area Neighborhood Alliance (CANA)

Boy Scout Club House, Enslin Park

Group introductions. Love all the new (and familiar) faces at today's meeting 😊

Nancy Simas won the door prize with her impressive knowledge regarding Graceada Park!

Bob's Take and Bake is every THIRD TUESDAY of each month

Taco Tuesday is starting up again in both the months of October and November (FIRST TUESDAY of these months. Come out and support our local schools. There's now a 'Community Table' for people to have spontaneous conversations or feel comfortable coming on your own and meet new people!

Safety: we have our neighborhood leave-behind cards available to pass out to your neighbors so that they know about CANA and important safety tips. City Manager, Joe, has started a blog. Safety tips also on Modesto's own website. Also don't forget to follow CANA and MPD on Facebook!

Pool/Splash Pad and the new playground have been amazing additions to Graceada Park! Can't believe they haven't even been there for two months yet. Special thanks to the Barber family, Beard family, and Leadership Modesto (and so many other people and organizations) that made this possible. There has been a noticeable increase of children and families in the park.

Thought was brought up to revisit the concept of a "child safety zone" around all of playgrounds. No adults without children would be allowed to enter this space.

Discussion on Homelessness in the park, the mentally ill, the outreach team... Two 'Heart Team' police officers were present at today's meeting and answered questions and gave information regarding what is being done to minimize the presence of homelessness. Discussed the problems and obstacles that occur when dealing with 'park residents.' When asked about feedings in the park, MPD states that they "cannot stop them." There are intrinsic human rights that must be upheld. They are trying to work with them to relocate services away from Graceada/Enslin. Twainhart has seen some of the feedings posted on Facebook and has been able to reach individuals that were able to divert the feedings. **Discussed the need for permits for feedings.**

Question was posed, "what can we do as neighbors?" Answer: keep law enforcement informed. Keep journals with dates/ times/ observations. Write down license plate numbers.

Concerns about crime, vandalism, and insane individuals and the response time by police was brought up. There is a shortage of man power. There is a current emphasis on growth in the various law enforcement divisions.

Low barrier housing update. New location is on the horizon. This may be going to the County Supervisors, August 21st. in the 1010 - 10th St downtown chambers. Modesto Gospel Mission opened up a day center. This may help minimize the daytime homelessness in Graceada.

Discussed the importance of attending city council meetings. Particularly the J Street project which should be going to council soon.

Make sure to get the Go Modesto App! It is a VERY efficient way to report and fix non-urgent matters.

Traffic calming report is going to be presented at the next meeting.

CANA is working on formalizing the structure of our 'government.' Will be posting people involved and their current positions. Please let us know if YOU are interested in joining the team 😊 NEW to the team is Brian Schardt who will be a liaison between CANA and Modesto's Chief Information Officer, Thomas Reeves.

CANA SURVEY: Please take this and let us know how/what/why/where/ who you feel about the neighborhood. It's a short 14 question survey and the purpose is for us to get YOUR input on how to improve the neighborhood. Go to: <https://www.surveymizard.com/c/2DE713C1> to voice your opinion!

Future Park (Graceada) Improvements: MoBand interested in improving Mancini Bowl. Modesto Sunrise Rotary interested in beautifying the playgrounds with colorful, interactive 'drum flowers' for children. Darrell Wilkins and the tennis/futsal resurfacing.

Police agility training. Where's MPD with this project? Going to reach out to Modesto Police Department and see what the current status is.

Introduction of "Gala in Graceada"- stay tuned for more details!

UPCOMING SOCIAL/NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS:

August 8th - National Night Out! A designated, nationwide date to make a point to hang out and meet your neighbors. Make sure to register your event with MPD.

August 21st - Bob's Take and Bake Fundraiser. Make sure to mention you're supporting CANA when placing your order!

August 29th - Neighborhood Social at Divine Swine, 5-9pm.

The BEST way to know about everything that is discussed at the meetings is to attend the next meeting: **Thursday, September 27th, 6- 7:30 pm at the Boy Scout Club House in Enslin Park.**