

Regular Workshop – November 9, 2015  
Agenda Item 8

Agenda Item: Discussion Regarding Neighborhood Watch Programs

Presenter: Town Manager and Police Chief

Summary: At the October 17, 2015 Town Commission Special Meeting staff was directed to prepare a presentation regarding neighborhood watch programs. The Police Chief will present information for Commission discussion and consideration

Attachments: 11-2-15 Memo, Chief Cumming to Commission;  
PowerPoint Presentation.

Recommended

Action: Pending discussion, provide direction to Manager.

## M E M O R A N D U M

Date: November 03, 2015

**TO:** Town Commission  
**FROM:** Pete Cumming, Police Chief  
**SUBJECT:** Discussion Regarding Neighborhood Watch Programs

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The Police Department will present information for Commission consideration regarding the implementation of a Neighborhood Watch program for Longboat Key.

Discussion will focus on State and municipal requirements regarding signage in compliance with the Town Code as well as community education. The purpose of a Neighborhood Watch is to work in concert with law enforcement, notifying authorities when suspected criminal activity is believed to be in progress.

The Longboat Key Police Department will have officers dedicated to educating community representatives on program expectations with an emphasis on “observe and report” standard. The Longboat Key Neighborhood Watch program will focus on crime prevention through awareness of the homeowner in partnership with the Police Department.

This item is placed on the November 9, 2015 Regular Workshop Meeting for Commission consideration and discussion purposes.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information prior to the meeting.

## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO: Dave Bullock, Town Manager**  
**FROM: Police Chief Pete Cumming**  
**DATE: November 2, 2015**  
**SUBJECT: Neighborhood Watch Program**

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The Police Department will present information for Commission consideration regarding the implementation of a Neighborhood Watch program for Longboat Key. Discussion will focus on State and municipal requirements regarding signage in compliance with the Town Code as well as community education. The purpose of a Neighborhood Watch is to work in concert with law enforcement, notifying authorities when suspected criminal activity is believed to be in progress. The Longboat Key Police Department will have officers dedicated to educating community representatives on program expectations with an emphasis on "observe and report" standard. The Longboat Key Neighborhood Watch program will focus on crime prevention through awareness of the homeowner in partnership with the Police Department.

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# Neighborhood Watch Discussion

November 9, 2015 Regular Workshop  
Meeting Presentation



# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

- Any Neighborhood Watch must be in compliance with Florida State Statute (FSS) 166.0485.
- This statute was enacted through House Bill 511 (Ch. 2004-18) which has an effective date of July 1 2004. Chapter 166 of the Statutes cover Municipalities.



# FLORIDA STATUTE FOR CRIME WATCH PROGRAMS

## FSS 166.0485 Establishment of neighborhood crime watch programs.

“Establishment of neighborhood crime watch programs.—  
A county sheriff or municipal police department may establish neighborhood crime watch programs within the county or municipality. The participants of a neighborhood crime watch program shall include, but need not be limited to, residents of the county or municipality”



## FSS 166.0425 Sign Ordinances:

- Any Sign, including Neighborhood Watch Signs, must comply with the Towns Sign Code.



## PURPOSE OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The purpose of a neighborhood watch is to work in concert with Law Enforcement to let them know when suspected criminal activity may be occurring. LBKPD Code Compliance would assure the sign was correct in form and functionality and placement. The signage is aimed at deterrence through vigilance of the homeowner and the Police Department together.



## RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be submitted and approved by the Chief of Police for each neighborhood watch.
- The neighborhood watch will receive direction from the Police Department regarding the newly formed partnership prior to the Chief signing off on the MOU.



## FUTURE ACTIONS

Longboat Key Police Department will work with any neighborhood wishing to implement a neighborhood watch.

Inquires have been received from County Club Shores.



**QUESTIONS?**



**End of Agenda Item**