

SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY NPC

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY NPC HELD ON TUESDAY, 23 JULY 2024 AT 18:00 VIA ZOOM

IN ATTENDANCE: -

SUNNINGHILL RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION: LINDA GILDENHUYS, (CHAIR), BRUCE LAWSON, MIKE GOODMAN; GIRISHA MOODLEY, UTE SCHWAIBOLD AND TRACY KENSEY

WARD COUNCILLOR VINO REDDY

1. WELCOME

Linda Gildenhuis opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, including Councillor Vino Reddy to the Annual General Meeting of Sunninghill Community. We had 115 members register for the meeting with numerous proxies received as well.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It was advised that all those that had registered for the AGM were sent an AGM pack, but were given the option of having the reports read. It was agreed the vast majority had read the pack and could go straight to Q & A. No questions were posed on the Chairmans report.

3. OPERATIONAL REPORT

It was confirmed by those present that the Operational report had been read and could go straight to Q & A.

1. Erika questioned the cause of water issues in SH, what is being done on a proactive basis, particularly the burst pipes.

Linda replied that this should be held over to General for questions for the Ward Councillor

2. SECURITY REPORT

It was confirmed by those present that the Security report had been read and could go straight to Q & A.

Erika raised a question on the intervals of Savika's Contract Renewal, as well as comparisons with other Security Providers

Linda explained as her portfolio is security, we have SLA with Savika, and that comparative quotes are obtained every 2 years. Suncomm believe Savika is still the best Security Co and we still get value for money. Any security concerns may be raised with Linda directly, some concerns have been raised previously and sorted.

Erika questioned the marketing done for Savika by SunComm, queried independence, and wants to feel comfortable knowing other security companies are compared

Linda responded; Savika was brought in by Suncomm years ago. Four (4) dedicated vehicles belong to Sunninghill Community, who don't own them but pay for them in their entirety, ensure they perform, patrol common property 24hrs a day for crime prevention, with an average of 3-4 mins response times. Should Savika no longer perform, SunComm would bring in another security provider to replace those x4 vehicles. Savika monitor x110 CCTV cameras which belong to the Ratepayers Association. Areas without dedicated vehicles have long response times. Dedicated vehicles are more costly as number of clients is fewer. Linda said that we are promoting our security initiative and Savika is a cog in that wheel and so in that role they are promoted but also monitored.

Sandra seconded Linda's support for the service she's received from Savika, being a Sunninghill resident for 34 years, and wouldn't change security providers.

Emily asked about the trends and Linda's impression of any increase in crime, specifically non forced entries, in the area. Linda responded by saying problems crop up, there have been criminals on foot, cell phone snatching is common but due to the Sunninghill Community Infrastructure, the area has one of the lowest serious crime rates.

SunComm secured The Stables where it was perceived the on-foot criminal was operating from. This seemed to have helped. The short spate of unauthorised remote-control access to complexes, was investigated and has been dealt with. Bruce agreed security is a continuous exercise and we all need to keep ahead of breaches using modern cameras and access.

Linda continued to say Sunninghill Infrastructure means we have the lowest serious crime rate, cell phone snatching still difficult to solve, criminals use vehicles that resemble UBER VEHICLES. SunComm's LPR cameras at entrances to Sunninghill are linked to SAPS data base and joint security of wanted vehicles, and has reduced serious crime significantly. SunComm work closely with all centres in Sunninghill, who are members of Sunninghill Community, and LPR cameras are monitored from the Savika control room. Many non-members in Sunninghill ask SunComm and Savika for assistance and for cameras footages of which they don't contribute towards and this is becoming a problem. The more that contribute the more security we could have and lower levies.

3. PRESENTATION OF BUDGET FOR 2024/2024

Bruce explained the main cost is Security.

- Salaries / wages and payroll costs - There are six (6) staff on the payroll, increases are in line with CPI. Office position increased from half day to full day.
- Casual labour has been cut back as money has been put towards security. Casual labour is ad-hoc and seasonal.
- Accounting is outsourced.
- Computer costs – last year, had fibre, routers installed, PC repairs prediction for new year won't have capital outlay
- Insurance -this is for Vehicle, Cameras, Public Liability and Directors Offices
- Petrol (Bakkie and brush cutters) x3 brush cutter work full time in summer as well as 1 x Chainsaw
- Repairs and Maintenance – vehicle, dump and suburb trips & Brush cutters
- Security - CCTV maintenance and solar for camera's
- Security - Live monitoring – Savika monitor cameras
- Security dedicated armed response vehicles and reaction offices and phones. Big expenditure, we can do with another vehicle because Security is our primary focus. But to do that we need an increase in membership
- Security - CCTV Infrastructure fund – for new equipment, some cameras are old, need to replace oldest ones with new technology
- Security - LPR licence and SAPS Data base - Fees payable, linked to camera
- Audit Fees / SARS returns, CIPC
- Protective Clothing and Uniform – for x2 gardeners and 1 x Traffic Warden
- Legal Fees – provision in place, with preferential rate being NPC
- General Expenses – Tools. Weedkiller, locks. Have revamped storage hut behind centre, and secured
- Litter Collection – outsourced to resident Solly. X65 bins twice a week. We plan to move bins and add more. This is a CoJ/ Pikitup job we have to do
- Special Projects – Inyanga Park, we have plans to develop. We cut back, maintain the fence and keep park clear so Savika can keep secure and do day/night regular patrols

Small budgeted profit is close to previous year, we would like another dedicated vehicle, develop park, and still maintain common areas, Bruce appealed to residents and complexes to keep common areas clean and cut grass.

Martin (online chat) requested new a SunComm Board. Tracy to follow up that all members have signboards.

Linda added, no bins are emptied, or grass reserves cut by anyone in Sunninghill, except by Sunninghill Community. For Mandela day, Sunninghill Community installed new bench and upgraded the garden. SunComm would like to put passion into aesthetics, but need more contributors. This in turn could reduce levies.

Erika queried Income and Expenses for future. What benchmark do SunComm have in respect of remuneration paid? How is it determined a market related remuneration. Wants breakdown for employee salary.

Linda responded, CPI increases given, KPI's are done, employees are paid market related salaries, interviewed and approved by the Board.

One director is remunerated as Managing Director who helps manages the office. One Director is remunerated for security, who built up security initiative, employed on a salary by Sunninghill Community, and not remunerated as a director or Chairman.

4. VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

The Chairman launched the Vote

Poll Questions	Yes	No	Abstain
To receive the financial statements of the Company and the reports of the directors and auditors for the year ended 28 February 2024	40	1	2
To accept the resignations and re-election of Bruce Lawson and Girisha Moodley as Directors of the Company	41		2
To reappoint Burns Acutt auditors of the Company for the ensuing year	40		3
To authorise the directors to determine the remuneration of the auditors	32		1

5. GENERAL

QUESTIONS FOR WARD COUNCILLOR REDDY

Vino replied to Erika's question re Joburg Water - pipes & sewage. Sunninghill is an old suburb with old pipes. Area was developed but infrastructure was not upgraded from AC (asbestos cement) to new UPVC pipes which can manage higher pressure. JW increased pressure to satisfy demand, rain and heavy soil during rain causing bursts. Poor financial standing restricts JW from replacing longer length pipes. On-site inspections were conducted this year with JW and JRA, the regional manager is looking at replacing pipes on Airdlin rd. but has yet to revert on reinstatements.

Reinstatements – numerous reports, Refs. RM of JW is his primary link. Undertaking from JRA in June that reinstatements would be done. Vino opened the floor to questions

Dawn asked about litter, grass cutting, maintenance etc. that is being done by Suncomm. Could COJ not perform this, so funds can be focused elsewhere. AFSU and Pikitu teams are in the area in addition to Sunninghill Community. Need to educate all, CoJ don't cut suburban grass areas. City Parks cut trees on request.

How does the community address Ubers, Hawker's, taxis? Taxis have outgrown taxi rank, earmarked for expansion, but put on back burner. Dept Economic Development is only granting licences for the inner city, not suburbs.

Delivery trucks in Edison Crescent are blocking Vet & Medical centre. JMPD is responsible for By-law Management. Savika assists where possible but have no authority.

Roger mentioned water valve in Edison crescent was replaced 6 years ago, area is yet to be reinstated. Leak was re-attended to by JW 2 weeks ago. Work order was issued for tarring and reinstatement on 19 Feb, Visit on 7 March by CoJ, JW, Cllr and Inspector. Tracy questioned why work order wasn't in the budget, work was due to commence on 20 June 2024

Erika asked about reducing water pressure to protect infrastructure. Due to increased density in Sunninghill, higher levels in complexes may not have sufficient pressure.

Pieter thanked SunComm for the work they do, queried individuals fixing potholes. Vino suggested Pothole Patrol, Sanral, JRA and Builders Warehouse sell asphalt.

Squatter settlements encroaching on the suburb, Chillie lane, Maxwell drive. Vino to meet with stakeholders, Acting RD Hlobo for Region A, will use same plan as used for Toyota. Social issues contributing to crime, Vino stressed the importance of reporting all crime. CPF and SAPS need to build a profile of crime to establish crime types and areas.

Sagie suggests fencing off rivers to prevent squatters. Asked what CoJ are doing with funds. Tanya agrees CoJ should be held accountable and offered support in reporting issues.

Councillor Vino Reddy was thanked for his time in the meeting and would like to make a difference working towards next year's AGM.

With no further questions, Linda Gildenhuys closed the meeting and thanked all the board members for their continued support, the new suburb Manager, and the community of Sunninghill.



AGENDA

Annual General Meeting of Sunninghill Community Ratepayers NPC

Tuesday the 23rd of July 2024 @18h00 via ZOOM

1. Welcome
2. Chairman's Report
3. Operational Report
4. Security Report
5. Presentation of budget for 2024/2025
6. Voting on resolutions

Ordinary resolutions

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following ordinary resolutions with or without modification:

- To receive the financial statements of the Company and the reports of the directors and auditors for the year ended 28 February 2024.
- To accept the resignations and election of Directors of the Company
- To reappoint Burns Acutt auditors of the Company for the ensuing year.
- To authorise the directors to determine the remuneration of the auditors.

7. Questions for Suncomm and the Ward Councillor

Please note that the Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association Annual General Meeting is a closed meeting for contributing members in good standing only.



CHAIRMANS REPORT 2024

Linda Gildenhuys

Ladies and gentlemen: good evening and welcome to the Sunninghill Community Annual General Meeting. My name is Linda Gildenhuys and I am Chair of this organisation. It is an honour for me to address you once again this year. We will share with you the actions and initiatives we have embarked upon in the past year, and as many residents are fairly new in the area will spend some time on explaining how the Ratepayers Association is made up, what our function is and how we operate.

Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association is a registered non-profit company initiated by the residents and businesses of the suburb of Sunninghill some 25 years ago. Sunninghill Communities members come FROM THE ENTIRE SUNNINGHILL. From Woodmead Drive in the east to the Sandspruit River in the West and from Witkoppen Road in the South to Malindi Road in the north. In the middle of this geographical area, we have two financially independent road closures who have their own Non-Profit Companies registered. This being Badger Park and Sunninghill Gardens. These two companies manage themselves. They are however financial contributing members of Sunninghill Community and Sunninghill Community does assist them with chasing up COJ service delivery issues. Although Sunninghill Community is one company, with one set of financials, we do have separate ledgers which are internal working documents. These ledgers were setup to ensure that any one area in Sunninghill does not subsidise another. For ease of reference, we have named these, Sunninghill Estates, which is the area below Sunninghill Village shopping Centre and Sunninghill Park which is the greater area outside of Sunninghill Estates. It would be unfair for Sunninghill Estates to subsidise Sunninghill Park and equally unfair for Sunninghill Park to subsidise Sunninghill Estates. Expenditure in each of these areas is allocated against the income from each of these areas, should one fall short and run at a loss, services in that particular area would have to be reduced. The vast majority of which are security services and these will be discussed in more detail in the security report back.

Suncomm fulfils various roles in the suburb. On the Ratepayers side we have Tracy in our office. Tracy joined us in October last year and many of you have had communication with her already. Our office acts as a facilitator between Council, our Ward Councillor and Ward inspector. Tracy reports various service delivery issues and chases them up to ensure they are resolved. She also gets involved in any beautification projects and the look and feel of the suburb. Our two gardeners who do such a wonderful job out there for us Paul and Sabelo report to her, as does our traffic warden Lerato. Bruce who is the director in charge of this side of our function will give a more detailed report on our wins and challenges in his operational report.

The other branch of Suncomm is security, which is my portfolio, and we will be explaining how this works and what we have endured and achieved during the security report back.

2023/24 has been a year of turmoil for all those in this beautiful country of ours. Crime, corruption, elections and economic difficulty being but a few. Most have felt helpless, angry and frustrated with what is happening around us.

The City of Johannesburg is basically bankrupt. The entire City is in a mess and there seems little to no hope that they can rectify this in the near future. We won't go into the reasons; we all know these already. Sunninghill unfortunately cannot escape this situation, but how can we as residents save Sunninghill and our investments? We are more fortunate than many other suburbs because we have a strong Ratepayers Association. This has enabled us in recent years to tackle certain things like security, grass cutting, litter collections, emptying bins and even filling potholes. Is it enough? No certainly not. Of course, we could do more if all those who reside in our suburb were members, and certainly no matter where we head, we will have to put more money into what we do to slow down the decay or try and save what we can of our investments. Due to the economic situation, we find ourselves in and the extra pressure to take on what we already are paying rates and taxes for we are finding ourselves under pressure to even sustain what we have. We are acutely aware of our members having to tighten their belts financially, we too are part of this group of residents. We take our role of custodians of your voluntary contribution to the work we do very seriously. You have trusted us with your hard-earned money to improve, maintain and fight for your investments, your homes, businesses and the safety of the suburb of Sunninghill. To ensure we work efficiently with your money we continuously look at ways that we can work more efficiently and scrutinise our overheads and costs. We unfortunately have had to cut back on much needed staff for the nice to haves in the area. Security is and will remain our first priority in our suburb and this is where the vast majority of our finances go.

Much as we would have liked to have used all the new membership contributions on projects, we have had to take into consideration what our residents can afford. Security increases were legislated at 8% this year and although we have to pay these increases, we managed to only increase our levies by 5.5% this past year. An achievement we are proud of, however it does come at a price – the price of not being able to do many of the things we and our residents would like us to.

But not to harp on all the negatives – the reason why we continue, even though at times suffer from battle fatigue is that Sunninghill is a unique suburb. A suburb is a geographical area, and THAT IS NOT WHO WE ARE. Those of you who follow us on our social media platforms will see that we refer to our Sunninghill Family. You will note that our Non-Profit Company is not called the Sunninghill Ratepayers Association, but the Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association. Now if you ask Google – what is a community? It will tell you that A **community** is more than just a group of people living in a particular area. A **community** is a group of people we lean on when times are tough; our friends, family, and neighbours who are there for us when we need love, support and encouragement.

A prime example of this, was the catastrophe that occurred in Sunninghill not so long ago and that was the flooding of the Witkoppen bridge, where a vehicle despite the warning from Savika was swept off the bridge into the river. The Emergency Services were amazing, the trained volunteers who assisted them were amazing. We felt so helpless as this happened in our suburb. We being a non-profit had no budget for this, but I knowing that we had this community put out notice and asked residents to contribute towards helping this amazing rescue team. The community of Sunninghill's love and generosity left us emotional and speechless. We were able to assist these wonderful people for just over two weeks with food and refreshments when they came out of the river. They searched and hoped, just as we did, to be able to bring the family of this poor lady closure. It was not

to be however, as she was never found, however we were part of that and I am so proud of my community of Sunninghill. **THAT IS SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY.**

Before I hand over to Bruce, I would like to thank my Executive Management for their dedication and efforts over the past year. It has been a challenging year for us but I am proud to say that we operate as one. We have a diverse talent on our board. Mike, a resident of Sunninghill Estates who was a director but stepped down last year, simply is too good to let go and his passion for Sunninghill so great that he has stayed on the committee but is no longer a director. Bruce our Managing Director who is very involved in the office and with the staff, is always there to encourage and motivate, a more supportive person you would not find. He is the “go to guy” when the wheels come off, especially mine. Then we have Girisha a resident of Sunninghill Park. A lady with the most marvellous sense of humour, who always manages to lighten up our board meetings and who with her forensic background always seem to cut through the discussions with logic and just plain common sense. Last but not least we have Ute who joined our board last year. She is rock solid and cares deeply about the environment and is definitely a keeper. Our team, although there are often hectic discussions on various issues, have never had to go to the vote on any decisions that needed to be made, there is always consensus. That too is an achievement. And I thank my team for that.

To all our members – I once again express my sincerest appreciation for your confidence in us. Without you it would be impossible to continue the work we are doing. I would now like to close off by mentioning once again that a strong membership base will strengthen the organisation and with this will strengthen our voice when dealing with authorities and enable to us to realise our vision of a safe, convenient and beautiful suburb to live and work in. We urge you to continue giving us your support and those that wish to assist we ask that in addition you help promote the very often thankless jobs we do by assisting us in growing this very important membership, our voice. Put the word out there. Help us get membership from those who are happy to live here, reap the rewards, criticise on social media but not contribute.

Thank you

Linda Gildenhuys
Chair
Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association



SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY 2024

OPERATIONAL REPORT

Bruce Lawson

With the winds of change hopefully happening in South Africa and Sunninghill specifically, we continue with our vision going forward for our plans and ideas for our great suburb.

However due to economic and budget constraints, we have not been able, for example, to employ as many casuals to assist us as we did previously. Nevertheless, our small energetic 2 man work team of Sabelo and Paul, have been working hard at keeping Sunninghill tidy with verge cleaning, grass and bush cutting and picking up the endless litter under the bushes, culverts and stream beds – they have also been planting and extending gardens in Sunninghill to improve the aesthetics of the area.

We have now subcontracted a local resident Solly, who with his bakkie, drives around emptying the 65 odd public concrete bins around Sunninghill twice a week – and the results are amazing. It still, however, totally amazes us that litter is actually thrown on the ground around the bins and not inside! Our aim going forward is to increase the number of bins to cope with the volume of litter – BTW Pickup still don't empty these public bins and leave it up to us to do so. We still replace the plastic bags in the bins but find that within a day or so many of the bags have been removed!!

How we educate those who continue to litter in the area is still a huge challenge and we are open to suggestions to find a solution. Delivery bikes, Uber drivers and office workers continue to just throw their lunch and dinner boxes on the ground right where they park and wait along the K60, Inyanga Close, pavements – in fact anywhere!!



We are continuing our discussions with the various shopping centres regarding these bikes and we have noticed that many of the delivery bikes have now been accommodated within the parking areas of the centres, moving them off the roads and pavements – and even a small covered seated waiting area has been installed in Sunhill Centre - progress has been made!!!

There are still the volunteer residents who have been assisting with regular litter collection in Edison Crescent Park and the labour team that keeps the stream clear in Edison Park from the shopping centre to the Nanyuki culvert – we thank them for their interest and concern for the area – we really appreciate it.

Our plan to remove Pompom weeds and invader plants is still an ongoing process. We have made some progress last year with the Pompoms and managed to reduce them substantially. If anyone would like to volunteer for this project going forward, please contact us



The Maxwell Drive center islands all the way to Eskom's South gate entrance are really taking shape and looking good with the water-wise plants maturing with regular weeding and mulching. Thanks to all the residents that continue to donate plants that we use to fill gaps in the various gardens – very much appreciated. You will all have noticed the huge difference to the garden in Nanyuki Road that runs in front of Sunninghill hospital – we received a lot of plants which we divided up and planted out to fill the garden.

The vast areas of grass – the K60 island and banks on both sides, Rivonia Road islands and verges and on various street pavements throughout Sunninghill continue to be a challenge and our 2-man team work hard at trying to keep it under control – a huge task in summer especially after lots of rain – I just want to remind everybody again - this is actually a job that the council should be doing, but they ignore Sunninghill and our pleas.



I think it's important to also repeat again - grass cutting is a job that we inherited due to the complete disinterest by the council and we do it purely in an effort to keep the suburb safe and looking great

As I did last year, I again beg assistance from residents and especially complexes to also cut their grass and plant growth on their immediate pavements and verges – front, back and sides – If everyone did this, it would make a huge impact to the look of the suburb and help free up our team to concentrate on the larger common areas and get much more done more quickly.



Potholes, continue to be the scourge of our failing road infrastructure and keep reoccurring. We try our best with no budget allocated to try and fill as many as we can, especially the large dangerous ones. Just recently we filled 40 potholes around Sunninghill. We gratefully thank those residents who have responded to our plea for donations towards this



Our team regularly still clean out storm water drains – drains that are blocked by leaves, litter and sand – residents' gardeners are sweeping leaves, cuttings and litter into the drains rather than bagging – this blocks them causing flooding in the streets. Please educate your gardeners or garden maintenance companies on this.

Due to the continuing restrained budget we are working with this year, our casual labour we brought in on an Ad Hoc basis to help when the load of grass cutting, weeding, litter collection overwhelms us and we can't keep up, has been even more curtailed and our small team are doing their best to keep up with all these tasks.

BUT some positive news:-

The large forest on Inyanga Close in the business node – named Inyanga Park – is still moving ahead and progress is being made, be it slow due to lack of funds but we have plans and designs drawn up and again when finances allow, we will start the transformation process.



Our signed agreement with City Parks to work together to turn the area into a community green belt and parkland is still in place.

With both sponsorship AND the assistance of City Parks, we have plans to develop this area into a secure park with dog friendly walking trails, mountain bike tracks, and picnic spots. We have kept the front grassed open area trimmed and flat and still plan to initiate community events such as monthly country markets and so on. We are looking for willing residents to champion this for us

City parks assisted us last year with a massive drive in the park to cut back the thick bush that had sprung up again during the rainy season and then remove all the branches and cuttings – opening up and clearing the area and making it much more accessible.

There are still many commercial property owners here who are not members and we will continue to engage with them to bring them on board. The area is being converted into multiuse accommodation retail and offices – so we believe that the park will be hugely beneficial to these new residents to utilise. We are busy planning beautification and maintenance projects to give this part of Sunninghill a facelift. We know it's essential that we create a Suburb that attracts the kind of investment in our suburb that we all want.

We have revamped our garden tools storage hut standing on the pavement backing onto the Sunninghill Village shopping centre and made it more waterproof and secure. It also looks much better.

Last year we finally managed to secure the vacant Stables property in Nanyuki road that has been a continual vagrant and crime access problem for us. We installed high palisade fencing, a palisade roller gate with razer wire closing off the top of Katumba Road access to the Stables property. We then installed sections of palisade and razor wire and rebuilt and repositioned the existing double gate with triple locks at the main entrance in Nanyuki road – making the area much more secure.

Moving to Leeukop Road we removed the old barbed and razor wire that was strung across the access to the river and green belt off Leeukop Road on the North boundary of the Airdlin Place complex. We installed high palisade fencing and razor wire and a sliding access gate secured with a lock. This has now restricted the access for criminals and vagrants using this route down to the river.

Lastly, I think it is important to reiterate again at this AGM the fact that Linda not only inherited the Chairman role years ago, and that she is a working active Chairman but she has continued in her role, that she was originally employed to do, and that was and is to build up the Sunninghill security infrastructure that we have and to manage the same. This in itself is a full-time job. She is spread very thin and with the escalation of, especially COJ problems

and her great communication with residents, she just could not find enough time in what is a 7-day week for her to get stuck in here as she really wanted to. I help as best I can with the management of the staff and overseeing of various operations and projects, but we all, as board members, have our own full-time jobs. This is one of the reasons we made the changes in the office and decided to continue with someone in a full day position.

Tracy joined us in October last year to run the office and she comes with tons of suburb management experience. She has contacts and access to many people in various departments and uses these avenues to try and get service delivery, water leaks, sewerage, street lights, reinstatements and so on, sorted out. One of her tasks is also to find those residents who want to help in Sunninghill. Form working groups and project management groups. We have so many resources that are untapped out there. We need to embrace them. The mountain of challenges are way too large for just a few to manage. Tracy began to implement the above a month or so ago, but had to go in for an op so it was put on hold. She is back in action now and will be contacting those people who put their names forward at a meeting held. Anyone else interested, please contact her.

And if you want to pop in and say hello to Tracy, Sunninghill Community offices are still upstairs above the ATMs in Sunninghill Village shopping centre.

Thank you

Bruce Lawson



SUNNINGHILL COMMUNITY - SECURITY REPORT 2024

Linda Gildenhuys

As done in the Chairman's report, I will explain for those who are new what security infrastructure we have in place and how it works. I will also explain our plans for the coming year and the wins and challenges we have had in the past year.

We will start with the dedicated Armed Response vehicles. Sunninghill has 4 Savika Special Ops vehicles, fully paid for by Sunninghill Community from membership contributions from their respective areas where they are dedicated. 1 dedicated Savika Special Ops vehicle and Reaction officer in Sunninghill Estates, paid for in full with membership contributions from that part of Sunninghill, 2 in Sunninghill Park, which is a very large area, paid for by the members of Sunninghill Park and 1 in Sunninghill Gardens, paid for by the Sunninghill Gardens Homeowners Association. Why are dedicated vehicles important?

Areas **without** dedicated vehicles:

- You are basically on your own. No one to look out for you.
- The area in which you live has crime – no crime prevention
- Response times between 15 and 30 minutes or more. Vehicles look after multiple areas and multiple clients. Response times depends on where they are coming from, traffic.
- Only one vehicle responds.

Sunninghill and the Suncomm Savika dedicated vehicles – **the benefit**

- You are NOT on your own
- 4 dedicated Savika Special Ops armed response vehicles with reaction officers, paid for by the Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association from levies collected from our members.
- 24 hours a day crime prevention patrols, high security visibility and very quick response to alarm activations. Average 3 to 4 minutes.
- Multiple backup vehicles responding to crime.
- A suburb with very low crime.



*Are dedicated vehicles more expensive than being linked to another security provider? **Yes.***

- A dedicated vehicle is more expensive as the number of clients it services are fewer. The privilege of having those cars costs money. And having them in the area is worth the extra expense. You cannot put a price on your security and that of your family, time saves lives.
- The cost to you - Sunninghill Community pays for those vehicles with your membership levies. You pay Savika to monitor your alarm and dispatch the Suncomm vehicles.

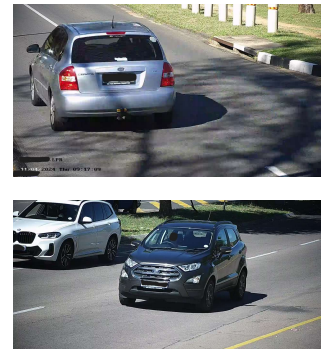
If membership drops because the fee looks too much – then the vehicles become unaffordable for the Ratepayers and will be dropped – **no dedicated vehicles and crime increases. The fact is that the more that contribute – the lower the cost to us all.** Whether you link your alarm to them or not, you as a member receive free phone in armed response and safer streets due to crime prevention. There are too many people reaping the benefits of our crime prevention initiative without contributing towards it.

On the CCTV front we have live monitored CCTV cameras in the streets of Sunninghill. These cameras are of high quality and have not only resulted in a number of arrests but assisted the police with crime intelligence. We have not stopped here however as crime syndicates increase and become more sophisticated, so we do what we have to, to keep a step ahead.

Why our CCTV cameras play such an important role in our low crime rate.

There are around 120 live monitored CCTV cameras dotted around Sunninghill, **owned by the Ratepayers Association**. These cameras are a valuable tool that our security provider Savika Special Ops, who monitor our cameras, use to combat crime and arrest criminals in Sunninghill.

In addition to the above We have 17 License Plate recognition cameras in Sunninghill and will be adding to these as finances become available. The LPR cameras give alerts on vehicles wanted by the SAPS for various crimes, the overview cameras guide the controllers to follow these vehicles until our **dedicated armed response vehicles** can locate them.



Three shopping centres in Sunninghill also have LPR cameras linked to us. Criminals love to frequent shopping centres, to buy something or take something they shouldn't or follow people who have what they want. These LPR cameras are linked to the Police Database of wanted vehicles involved in crime and to a combined police and security company database of suspected or suspicious vehicles. Immediately one of these sought after vehicles goes through these cameras an alarm is activated in the control room with a pop up of the vehicle concerned, where it presently is and what it is wanted for. The Savika Reaction vehicles and police are immediately despatched while the CCTV controllers use the other cameras to track the movement of these vehicles until we catch up with them. Sunninghill is well known as being a leader in using this crime fighting technology.

All of this is on our own Sunninghill Community Ratepayers Association dedicated fibre. We are, to my knowledge, the only area that has this. That means that linking our cameras to this fibre which is owned by us, only costs us the technology to link to it, our cameras and power of course. It also means that there are no privacy issues. We do not sell footage to anyone as some others do. Only law enforcement agencies such as SAPS locally and provincially, receive any footage from our cameras if they provide a case number. We have always been Popi compliant here and are very strict about enforcing this rule.

Getting back to the year in review. Security wise we have had a fairly successful one as far as keeping the stats down, especially serious crimes. Unfortunately one will never eradicate crime altogether, the crime in Sunninghill has been very low in comparison to other areas in Northern Johannesburg.

I will now mention some of the crime trends we have experienced in Sunninghill over the past year:

- Theft out of motor vehicles and theft of motor vehicles, mostly in shopping centres and gyms is unfortunately on the increase --- The most common vehicles being stolen are Toyota Hilux; Toyota Fortuner; Polos as well as Ford Rangers
- Cell phones snatching is the most common crime, not just in Sunninghill but all over. This happens mostly at restaurants, in shopping centres and even in the streets. This crime happens very quickly where a vehicle drives up, someone jumps out and the unsuspecting victim has their phone snatched, the criminal jumps back into the car and they speed off before the poor victim has even registered what has happened. This continues to be our biggest contributor to crime in the suburb and we encourage those who walk or run in the suburb not to take their phones with them. Those waiting for an Uber are also targeted. Wherever you are make sure your phones are not visible.
- Smash and grabs I am pleased to say have reduced substantially due to processes put in place by Savika. We continue to monitor the areas where we are vulnerable to this sort of crime.
- I am pleased to say the number of serious crimes, such as armed robberies in Sunninghill have dropped over the past year.
- The number of house breakings are also down on the previous year. In the previous reporting period a large number of the house breakings we have experienced have been in complexes and involved what we referred to as the on foot criminal stealing laptops and cell phones etc. Various complexes have been targeted many of them around the old Stables property in Nanyuki Road. Suncomm worked together with these complexes and secured that problematic land and the incidents stopped for some time. They seemed to start up again but measures put in place with leads Savika received seemed to have stopped this crime.

- As we have the top of the range, state of the art crime fighting infrastructure in Sunninghill, the serious crimes such as armed robberies have dropped.
- What is of concern to us, is we are noticing a petty crime increase and some of this can be directly attributed to the squatter settlements popping up around us.

Our wins that have been of note this past year. We have made a number of arrests which can be attributed to:-

- Our CCTV infrastructure and License Plate recognition cameras. These are crime prevention tools where arrests were made before crimes could be committed.
- CABLE THEFT A number of arrests have been made of criminals stealing cables – and here we again have to thank our **dedicated** vehicles that patrol the area with the intention of stopping crime before it is committed.
- Arrests due to our being able to identify vehicles involved in house breakings and some vehicle theft recoveries also as a result of our cameras and Savika's relationship with tracking companies
- Criminals entering the shopping centres where we monitor their LPR cameras
- We have provided solar and battery backup for some of our most important camera sites around Sunninghill to protect us from load shedding and power outages. This will be an ongoing process but to date most of the important thoroughfares and entrances to Sunninghill have been covered.

We can only do what we can, with what we have available and I am afraid that requires not just our hard work and dedication but finances. We appeal to you to help us grow our membership so we can do more for you our members and keep you as safe as is possible in this poor crime ridden Country of ours.

Lastly, I continue with my role in monitoring that our contracted security provider Savika Special Ops performs to our standards and provides our members with the best security possible and to this end, I once again this year thank them for working with Suncomm to sustain this. They too have faced their challenges with the increasing cost of petrol over the past few years, Psira legislated increases which they cannot pass entirely onto their clients due to affordability, this includes



guarding sites. One thing here I must mention is that, unlike some other security companies, Savika adheres to these legislated increases, they do not try and cut corners or break the law. If they have to lose out to security companies who do, then they are prepared to do so. Suncomm who takes abiding by the laws, even if we don't like them all, very seriously appreciate this fact.

THANK YOU

Linda Gildenhuys