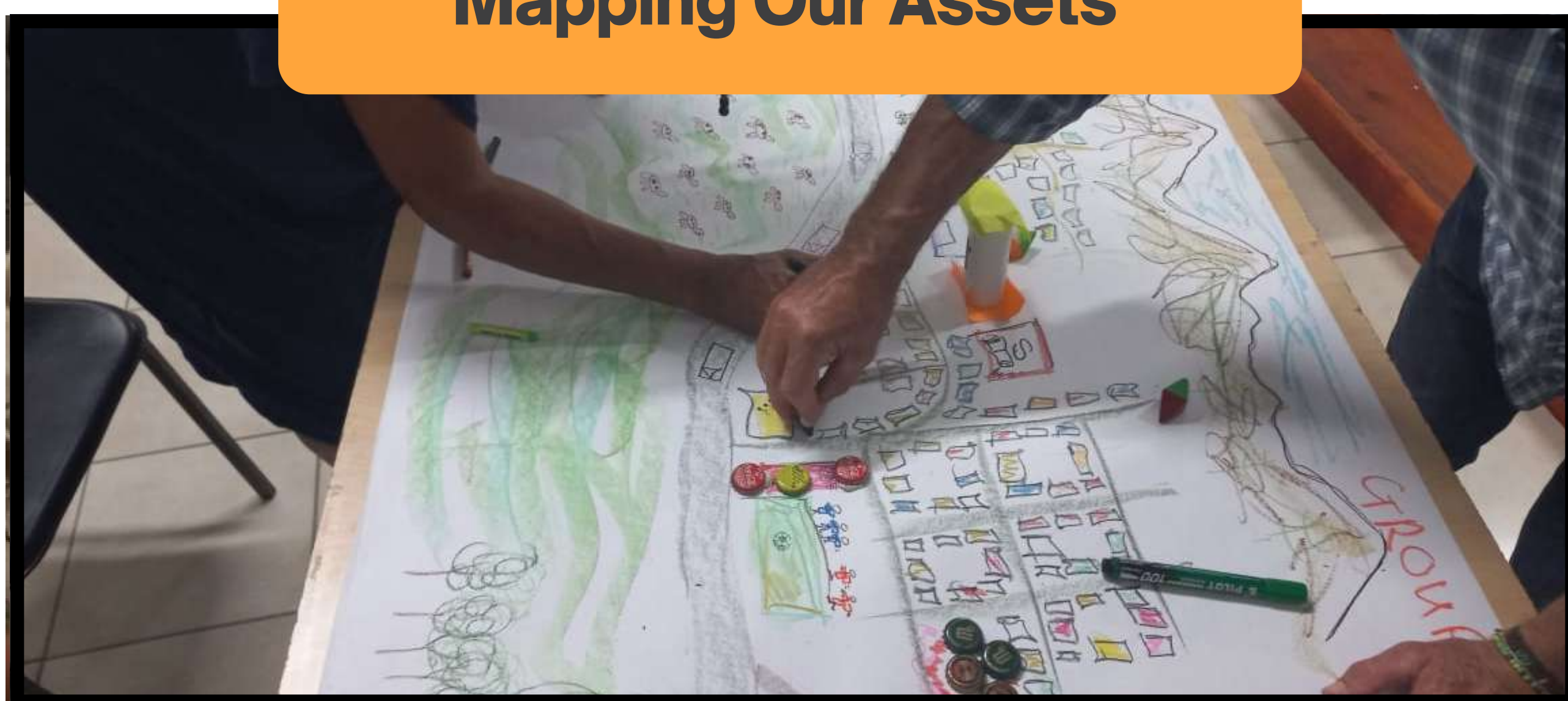


On 23 February the Hoekwil/Touwsranten Community Safety Forum met for the 6th time.

Sixteen people from Hoekwil and Touwsranten and members of the SAPS (Brigadier Michaels, Col Ntwapi, and Warrant Officer Boshoff) took part. Most of the participants had attended at least one meeting before this and we were happy to welcome new participants!

The meeting was facilitated by Capt Morné Heunis, Roslynn Damons and Chandré Gould.

Mapping Our Assets



Updates



In all our meetings we receive updates on the activities of the working groups. We also hear from the SAPS about crime and receive news about any new developments.

Flea Market



Denzel reported that the next market will be on 9 April. Stallholders from Hoekwil and Touwsrante are welcome! It will cost R20 for a stall. Details are being finalized and will be shared closer to the time

HoekSoek



The Hoek-Soek group are a bit stuck at the moment, because they want to make sure that the service is reliable and useful. This mostly means that they want to be able to make sure that anyone who offers their services actually has the skills that they say they have. Any suggestions are welcome.

Updates



Crime



A number of assaults have been reported in Touwsranten.

The SAPS arrested a burglar.

There was a robbery at one of the spaza shops in Touwsranten.

The SAPS are very concerned about the robberies and are working with the spaza shop owners to increase safety.

Crime in Wilderness Heights is much higher than in Hoekwil and the community of Wilderness Heights are interested in starting a forum like this one.

SAHARA: addressing addiction



Dr Herman Reuter from the George hospital attended the meeting and shared information about the work he and his colleagues are doing to support people addicted to drugs, alcohol and cigarettes.

The organization he works with is called Sahara. Addicts receive medicine to help with the side effects of withdrawal and join support groups.

Francios Marais, a doctor who regularly visits Touwsranten could bring the necessary medicine with him, if there were people who wanted to join the programme from Hoekwil and Touwsranten.

A support group is going to be started in Wilderness Heights.

Updates



ECD Centre



The Seven Passes Initiative's new early learning centre (crèche) has found a home and will open in early April.



Asset-Based Community Development



This meeting built on the foundations we had laid in previous meetings where we had discussed what makes us safe and unsafe, what we need to do to address the things that make us feel unsafe, and established working groups to take the work forward.

We are using a method called Asset-based Community Development that helps us to identify what is good in our community and enables us to build on our strengths. This helps prevent us getting stuck in the problem, and can help us to keep moving forward towards a healthy, safe community.

We started by speaking about things we are proud of in our community.
Here are some of those things (maybe you can think of more!)

That people have a positive outlook

That the community is welcoming

The Seven Passes Initiative

Beautiful nature around us

A beautiful school in Touwsrante

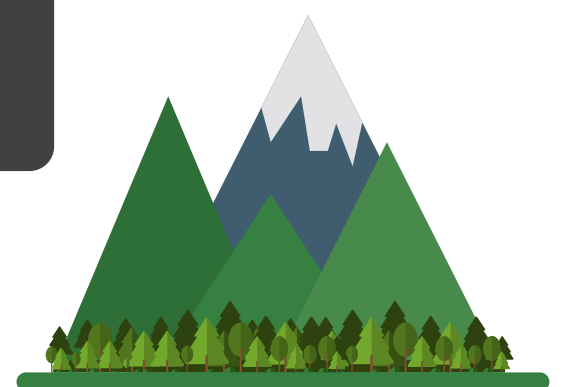
Teamwork

People who are willing to collaborate and work together

Good people, including the local SAPS

The Churches

The Community Safety Forum



Asset-Based Community Development



Then, we listed the skills and talents of people in the Forum, and people we know.
Here is what one group found:



Finally we listed the organisations and groups in our community.
Some of these were:

The Seven Passes Initiative

Hoekwil Ratepayers Association

Sports Clubs in Touwsrante

Creches

Churches

Touwsrante Neighbourhood Watch

Asset-Based Community Development



And then we got creative...



The next meeting will be on:
Wednesday 30 March at 5:30pm

7

Hoekwil & Touwsrante

Community Safety Dialogue