

District IV Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2007
www.wichita.gov

The **District IV Advisory Board Meeting** was held at the 7:00 p.m. at the Lionel Alford Branch Library. In attendance were ten (10) District Advisory Board members, seven (7) staff and approximately two (2) citizens with one (1) signing in.

Members Present

Nancy Wilhite
Joshua Blick
Mary Cockburn
Hestel Sewell
Peggy Bennett
Ed Koon
Gerald Marsh
Jim Benton
Tom Engelmann
Michael Gisick

Staff Present

Officer Rassette, Police
Officer Recio, Police
Kelli Glassman, City Manager's Office
Officer Woodrow, Police
Deb Legge, Office of Central Inspection
Lt. Marceau, Police
Julie Irvin, Office of Central Inspection

Guests

Gavin Buchanan, 1425 S Sedgwick

Members Absent

none

Order of Business

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Wilhite (Benton) moved to approve the agenda for the October 3, 2007 meeting. Motion passed 10-0.

Blick (Marsh) moved to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2007 and August 1, 2007 meeting. Motion passed 10-0.

Public Agenda

The public agenda allows members of the public to present issues not on the agenda to the District Advisory Board. Each presentation is limited to five minutes unless extended by the Board.

1. Scheduled Items

No items were submitted.

2. Off-Agenda Items

No items were submitted.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Education Update

This presentation was postponed until the November 7 meeting.

4. Community Police Report

Officers present reported the following:

- School zones around Delano have been closely monitored
- The annual Children's Safety Fair will be November 3 from 10 am- 3 pm at Towne West
- Gang activity shifting over on Wildwood and has increased a little but police are working with management to evict and identify issues.
- There has been a lot of larcenies in the west side residential area of Delano, but the suspect has been apprehended and larcenies have decreased since then.
- There is a special assignment being conducted at 1601 S Edwards for speeding
- The new west community police offices have moved to Plaza West at Central and West.
- Patrol West took up donations to purchase 1250 Halloween bags for children. To get one, contact Patrol West or the west community policing office.

Action Taken: Received and filed.

New Business

5. Office of Central Inspection Update

Deb Legge provided brochures on the Neglected Building Ordinance and copies of the instructions for Neglected Building Registration – she said the information is also available on the website.

- Here is what has happened so far:
 - As soon as Council passed the ordinance, about 650 identified boarded up buildings were entered into the Tidemark systems as VNR cases. Owners were sent a notice to register.
 - At one point there were around 750 VNR cases in the system – 24 percent of the original cases have been closed because the properties have either been demolished or unboarded and repaired. About a third of these cases are properties with out of town owners.
 - Currently about 550 open VNR cases; of those 23 percent are registered.
 - A penalty notice (\$250) will go out if the property is not registered. The owner can be penalized \$250 each quarter.
 - Once the owner hits the \$1,000 mark, OCI will use the Municipal Court collection agency (these are civil penalties). If the owner doesn't pay, eventually the property will be foreclosed on.

- OCI has to report back to Council in 18 months on how the process is working.
- Other code related updates:
 - OCI has done 107 condemnations so far this year
 - OCI and Housing worked with the Court and tried to institute a diversion program – so far, none of the participants have followed through
 - The tiered penalties have now kicked in for housing offenders in Municipal Court and one repeat offender (a landlord) was recently fined \$8,000
- Merge of OCI and E/S inspectors:
 - On Jan 1, 2008, six environmental inspectors, one supervisor, one administrative aid and five seasonal weed mowing staff, as well as the abatement budget, will move to OCI
 - They will start cross-training in a week and there is a team in place working on work process issues
 - Law is working on the Chapter 7 ordinances to give all the inspectors enforcement authority
 - The city will be divided into 19 geographic areas with the problem areas being smaller
 - It will take a while for the inspectors to become proficient in their additional duties and the public will need to be patient.
 - Deb is working with Sharon on the fence issues.
 - Environmental services will maintain enforcement on issues such as surfacing sewage, lights, noise, animal feces, large, illegal dumpsites

Action Taken: Received and filed.

6. Offender Re-Entry Program

Jesse Howes, Offender Re-entry Taksforce member, presented this item. The offender re-entry taskforce is a joint city/county taskforce established in 2003. This committee reviews recommendations of the Wichita Assembly, collects additional information and makes additional recommendations, identifies what steps needed to implement to re-integrate offenders back into the community.

One program under this initiative is the offender re-entry program. This program provides case management that targets risk at least 12 months prior to release and follow offender into the community for at least 6 months. It engages offenders, families and supports; develop services, communities and offers a continuum of services (substance abuse, mental health, housing, etc. The community is impacted, so they are actively involved in the process through committees that provide input into the program. The goal of this program is successful reintegration of the offender into society. This program is voluntary. Participants are identified 18-12 months prior to release on the following criteria:

- Returning to Sedgwick County or have pro-social ties to Sedgwick County.

- High-risk to re-offend (LSI-R of 25 or higher—some exceptions if other factors apply; e.g. multiple revocation history, sex offender, etc.)
- Have at least 12 months left to serve on sentence
- Indeterminate sentence inmates are eligible through a recommendation by the parole board.

147 participants are enrolled in the program to date: 31 women and 116 men. The first participant returned to the community February of 2007. Accountability Panel began May 2007 and meets monthly to welcome, hold accountable, and celebrate participant successes. There are currently 9 in the community and 138 in the facility and 2 have graduated this program.

A Housing Specialist developed several relationships with landlords and faith-based organizations willing to work with this population, the liaison with Wichita Police Department has developed relationships with law enforcement and corrections staff and community partners and the workforce Investment Act being utilized to bring viable training to offenders in facilities.

Action Taken: Received and filed.

OLD BUSINESS

7. No items were submitted.

BOARD AGENDA

8. Board Updates and Issues

Sewell stated that he and his wife are attending the Citizens Police Academy and enjoying it. **Bennett** asked what they will do with the houses at Kellogg and Maize. It was stated that this will be commercial property, but is not platted.

Marsh stated that members of the Delano Business Association met with the 21st St Business Association to compare ideas and ask advice on best practices. He also announced that the last art crawl for the season will be this coming Friday in Old Town.

Koon commented that the Orchard Breeze neighborhood association meeting will be at 7:00 on Thursday, October 4.

Council Member Gray announced that they are working out the details of the new baseball team and that the new team will play in 2008.

Action Taken: Received and Filed.

8. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.