

**District VI Advisory Board
Agenda**
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**Monday
February 5, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

**Evergreen Recreation Center
2700 N. Woodland
Lounge Clubroom**

The District VI Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Evergreen Recreation Center Lounge Clubroom 2700 N. Woodland. District VI councilwoman led the meeting with eight (8) District Advisory Board members in attendance, five (5) city staff and three (3) members of the public who signed in.

Members Present

C. Bickley Foster
Linda Matney
Bob Schreck
Bob Wine
John VanWalleghen
Sandra Whittington
Charlie Claycomb
Marsha Carr

Members Absent

Jaya Escobar
Carol Skaff

Staff Present

Officer Davidson, Patrol West
Officer Norton, Patrol North
Officer Schwiethale, Patrol South
Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant
Gary Jansen, Public Works

Guests

Listed at end

Council Member Fearey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. welcoming everyone and asked the DAB Members to introduce themselves and state their representation on the board.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for January 17, 2007 were approved with amendments (**Wine/Schreck 7-0**)
Member Foster arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with amendments. (**Matney/Carr 8-0**)

Public Agenda

1. **Scheduled items:** No items were scheduled
2. **Off-agenda items:** Bruce Simkins 501 W. 42nd North stated he was here to discuss the previous issue about a conflict of ordinance between (OCI) Office of Central Inspection and (ES) Environmental Services departments pertaining to one property located at 518 W. 42nd where horses are being housed. Under current ordinance a family that has two horses cannot be grand fathered in. Both OCI & ES could not get it straight what to tell this family to do. Does a city department have the right to override an ordinance? Simkins continued saying the homes in this area have extra-large lots and are a nice area for keeping horses but I couldn't tell a prospective buyer that. If a buyer inquired about allowing horses in this neighborhood they would need to contact the City. Kay Johnson, ES Director would like to meet with me but I do not want to meet as there has been no previous resolution from Johnson or Bill Hoffman also ES staff. This is not a problem to me but would like to get answers to my questions.

Simkins continued to ask why people who speak on this public agenda couldn't present a motion? These people want more empowerment. I want help from the DAB on this issue. **Carr** asked what kind of empowerment does DAB have to ask City departments about these types of issues? **Fearey** responded that this particular ordinance is already set and our Law Department could speak further to Mr. Simkins or he can visit with Kay Johnson. **Schreck** asked about an interpretation of the ordinance, what could I tell a buyer if they were interested in purchasing a home in this area? **Foster** stated most City of Wichita ordinances have an appeal process and some department directors do have the power to override an ordinance. **Fearey** finished saying some of the ordinances are set this way so staff can work with citizens if need be.

*******Action:** Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Report

Officer Schwiethale, Patrol South Beat 22 discussed the crime trends for the beat increase and then decrease as in November there were two vandalisms reported then in December showed an increase of 12 vandalisms. We are opening a POP police-oriented-project in the downtown area due to juveniles going to the upper level of parking garages and throwing things to vandalize vehicles below. A story reported on Channel 12 notifying about this helped in decreasing vandalisms. We received an anonymous tip there was illegal gambling and drinking taking place in an abandoned warehouse. We were able to get this problem shut down.

Officer Davidson, Patrol West Beat 15 reported there had been an increase in auto thefts during this cold weather. Please don't leave your car running. Our officers have been monitoring areas for potential suspects stealing vehicles. Patrol West Bureau is also looking at high accident locations to do special traffic enforcement education. We are working alongside area businesses. **Carr** asked are the car thefts to steal, joy ride, salvage or sell? *Davidson* responded that he had not investigated thoroughly to see what was actually taking place.

Officer Norton, Patrol North stated people in general were stealing cars just to get from one side of town to the other or for the radio/stereo equipment. Beat 41 the prostitution has been slow on North Broadway. We will soon be seeing the posting of prostitutes/johns photos on the Police website. Officer Sharp Beat 48 has been spending a lot of time on graffiti issues and trying to catch the kids doing the tagging. Officer Morris has transferred to Beat 43 and Officer Lenzie has taken over Beat 49. **Carr** asked who would replace Officer Kyle? Officer Birdwell.

Foster asked what's the penalty for painting graffiti? The judge can order them for restitution on the clean up and possible fines. **Foster** continued there needs to be more bite to the graffiti ordinance. **Carr** stated Riverside Citizens Association had included the ordinance in their newsletter for everyone to read. **Carr** continued saying she would get the information and send to the DAB. *Norton* continued School Resource Officers are looking at students and documenting which ones are gang members. There have been a few kids caught but they are no longer leaving their names on the graffiti.

***** **Action:** Receive and file

New Business

4. 21st St. Bridge Rehabilitation over the Arkansas River

Gary Janzen, Public Works explained about the rehabilitation project for the 21st Street Bridge that was built in 1972. Due to drainage from the deck sides have caused corrosion to the

underneath pier caps which need to be replaced and supported. The bridge has had numerous patches and is in need of repair ASAP. If we can't repair the bridge we will have to do more patchwork. We would like to have this project out to bid soon and repaired by summer. The time frame for construction would be from 4-5 months. *Janzen* continued saying the funding for this project was an issue. The bridge is 10 times the size of an average bridge. We have some federal funding but need more. The City will meet with KDOT to seek approval about funding.

VanWalleghen asked if the problem was salt on the bridge? *Janzen responded that brine (salt mixed with sand is what is used during the ice-snow season. We want to change the way the bridge drains without affecting the bridge materials.* **Claycomb** asked if the traffic below would be maintained on the bike path? *Not sure but we will try. There may be limited access but until a contractor is on board we don't know yet. We will do a media release once we are ready to start.* **VanWalleghe**n stated the Benjamin Hills neighborhood is very interested and if there are any public meetings you want to make sure all the local neighbors including those to the south of the bridge are invited. **Schreck** asked how long would the construction take? *Between 4-5 months, this is not a complete rebuild so it won't take long.* **Wine** asked if the total project would cost three million? *We hope the costs will steady out and don't think the cost will go lower as this is a large bridge needing a lot of repair.* **Wine** questioned in the CIP they had the bridge to be repaired in 2007 to the cost of \$250,000 from City and \$500,000 from KDOT. *Janzen responded the bridge was in better shape back then and we didn't take into account the size of the bridge.* **Wine** asked what can this mean for other CIP projects where dollar figures have already been established? *The change in estimates of projects is due to construction costs increasing immensely.* **Carr** asked would the river need to be lowered during construction? *No.*

*******Action:** The District VI Advisory Board motioned to recommend Approval of the 21st Street Bridge rehabilitation project. (**VanWalleghe**n/**Matney 8-0**)

5. 13th St. Bridge Rehabilitation over the Little Arkansas River

Gary Janzen, Public Works explained the 13th St. North Bridge over the Little Arkansas River, often referred to as Minisa Bridge, constructed in 1932, is in need of major repairs. We don't have very much funding for this project, as there is no State funding to do this. This is a bridge needing preservation on its historic elements and artistic features. This is an important work of art and infrastructure. We need to remove the brick and tear out the insides. The piers will stay but we will remove the top and replace the support beams. The inside of the bridge will need total replace like the Murdock St. Bridge. We will maintain traffic during construction, which hopefully will start in April. While school is in session we will maintain one lane of westbound traffic but once school is out there will be no thru traffic for six months.

Foster asked who did the original art work and how much of the funding goes towards art? *There is \$300,000 for art restoration. Glen Thomas did the artwork for the School and it is still a mystery who did the design on the bridge. The original drawings do not look like what the bridge*

has now. **Schreck** asked if it would be able to match the brick and would there be restrictions on the bridge before construction due to the load? *We are going to try to match the brick but we don't know from where we will get it and if the bridge gets worse we will look at doing load restriction.*

Matney asked what the size the sidewalk would be after the rebuild? *Once the bridge is finished the sidewalk should be around 5 ft sidewalk.* **Carr** stated the surrounding neighborhood associations had been discussing the bike path under the West side of the bridge and if this

would be included as part of the project. *We are in discussion with the Park Department about installing conduit for lighting the bike path at this same time.* **Whittington** mentioned the art on the bridge is not the same as when she was in school. McCormick school has old yearbooks showing the original design on the bridge and staff may want to check this.

*******Action:** The District VI Advisory Board motioned to recommend Approval of the 13th Street Bridge rehabilitation project. (**MatneyCarr 8-0**)

Board Agenda

6. Problem Properties

No problem properties were reported.

7. Neighborhood Reports

- Comments were made about the fire being lit around the Keeper of the Plains after 4 p.m. today and was very beautiful. **Fearey** stated she had a photo she would send to everyone that had been taken of the keeper when all the snow was on the ground.
- CDBG funds: reported more possible cuts, this report was for eight counties United Way made a very good report with data to justify the needs. A lot of information was included from the 2000 Census data. **Carr** asked if United Way was part of visioneering? No.
- Congratulations to **Bob Wine** as new president of Wichita Independent Neighborhoods.
- **Indian Hills:** meeting held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

*******Action:** Receive and file.

Updates from Council Member Fearey

- CDBG Emergency Shelter grants: nine agencies met and worked to see how they could help another agency that needed funding.
- MAPC reported the platting is done for Wal-Mart at 53rd and Meridian. Wal-Mart wants to have their building done by the end of this year.
- Extra money in state funds, they cut AdValorem tax with Demand Transfer Funds back. I will send an E-mail to you all with this info.

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Guests

Jerry Prichard	1607 N. Clarence Indian Hills- Riverbend N.A.
Christine Eberle	1814 Joann N.W. Big River N.A.
Delora Donovan	1559 Ferrell

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant