

**District VI Advisory Board
Minutes**
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**Monday
October 1, 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 eleven (11) District Advisory Board members in attendance, six (6) city staff and eleven (11) members of the public who signed in.

Members Present

Marsha Carr
Bob Schreck
Stacie Longwell
C. Bickley Foster
Bob Aldrich
John VanWalleghen
Jaya Escobar
Pat Randleas
Charlie Claycomb
Carol Skaff
Janet Miller

Members Absent

Staff Present

Officer Perkins, Patrol West
Terri Dozal, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Norton, Patrol North
Officer Sharp, Patrol North
Julie Irvin, OCI
Deb Legge, OCI

Guests

Listed at end

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for September 19, 2007 were approved with amendments. (**Aldrich/Claycomb 10-0**)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with an amendment to add item 5-A Nominate First/Second Pro-tem. (**Skaff/Aldrich 10-0**)

Public Agenda

1. **Scheduled items:** *Cynthia A. Gardner*, provided information on Aquatic Safety & Lifeguard Standards due to within the past years there had been three drowning in the City of Wichita. *Gardner* said she is working with Jim Moore, State Representative to show the importance of updating city codes for lifeguards and to push State Legislature to get these changes made. *Gardner* stated the age limit for lifeguards should be 18 years old as at this time there are lifeguards as young as 15. This is a great responsibility to put on these youth. Also, lifeguard's wages have not changed since 1997 and should be reviewed. Included were the salaries for the executives at the YMCA showing there is money to give an increase to lifeguards. *Gardner* continued saying she was seeking support from DAB's to create and sign a petition for the City of Wichita to update their city codes for Lifeguards and Aquatic Safety.

2. **Off-agenda items:** None at this time

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

Member Escobar arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Report

Patrol North: *Officer Norton, Beat 41* said there is still an increase of burglaries and larcenies in the Moorings. Officers continue to work special assignments for the area.

On Beat 42 there was a Prostitute/John sting on September 28th with 12 arrested along North Broadway and Topeka near 10th and 11th streets.

Member Schreck said there had been break-ins to sheds in Sherwood Glen and he knew Officers Lenzie and Sharp were monitoring the neighborhood.

Patrol West: *Officer Perkins* reported along 13th /West streets there have been larcenies. Officers have passed out flyers to notify residents. Also, flyers were handed out near 25th street and North Meridian due to some auto larcenies.

Beat 12 in Delano and Beat 14 in the DAB VI area also has had auto larcenies. On 9-12-07 at 3000 W. Douglas an arrest was made and since then the auto larcenies have decreased. We are assisting with Sedgwick County with an on-going drug house investigation along 2nd street. There have been non-residential burglaries and we are working special assignments due to this.

Community Police has moved out of Towne West and relocated to 601 N. West. We will be holding an open house for our new location on Oct. 11th. We opened a NOTE complaint for Bryant Elementary, as cars are not stopping at crosswalk. Nov 3rd Towne West will host a Safety Fair, we will have Child ID. For Halloween this year we are handing out McGruff safety bags.

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

New Business

4. Neighborhood Inspection

Julie Irwin, Neighborhood Inspector Supervisor reported on how many inspectors she supervises and the issues they cover when out inspecting in neighborhoods. *Irwin* also quoted numbers and percentage of information on boarded structures; active and closed cases for district VI including registered and non-registered structures. There are 400 cases not registered in various stages.

Member Skaff asked about the property at the corner of 2nd/Bluff it was under renovation but never finished. *Irwin* responded this was a closed case with an active permit as they are doing renovation.

Member Schreck stated the Ritchie Brothers trucks in the Sherwood Glen neighborhood on North Seneca, are stored with chemicals. He asked the company what kind of chemicals were in the trucks and was told not to bother with it. **Schreck** was concerned as to whom he should report this to. *Irwin* stated it would depend on the chemicals as to whether Fire or Environmental Services should observe it.

Member Miller asked what is the process for newly boarded structures, do we notify the inspector? *Irwin* responded if the structure is not registered, we give them time to work with their inspector or ask them to call OCI. What if the structures are vacant? *Contact OCI if they are vacant and not getting permits.* **Miller** continued that Jack's near North High the building windows are getting broken and graffiti and has lots of weeds. *Irwin said the new owner has a permit to get the building up to code.*

Member Carr asked if there was a sliding scale for fines and is the info on the website? *Fines increase on re-peat offenders, 2nd conviction not less than \$100, 3rd conviction not less than \$500 and 4th conviction not less than \$1000. Yes, this info is in the penalty section of the housing code - 20.04.200.*

Member Randleas asked what do you mean by registering? *Registering means the applicant needs to let us know their plan of action for the property. Are this mainly absentee landlords? No, this is for residential properties.*

Deb Legge explained the restructure of the OCI department stating on Jan 1, 2008, environmental inspectors will be coming to OCI to allow for better efficiency of both departments. There will be a supervisor, six inspectors and a support staff person. The 19 inspectors will have smaller geographical areas and it will take us awhile to get efficient as both will be cross-trained. Neighborhoods will have one place to call now for issues.

There are still a lot of issues to resolve with the merge:

- One factor is educational requirements differ for OCI/ES inspectors. OCI inspectors didn't need to have college and the ES inspectors do, as they are environmentalist.
- Training will be starting for the housing issues soon. The outside house issues are not hard but the indoor housing issues will take intensive training.
- Funding for three staff will come out of the General Fund and the other three staff will be paid from CDBG funding.
- The inspectors will permanently work out of the neighborhood city halls and there are concerns as to how will the notices be mailed from the center.
- We will not do animal maintenance issues, odor, light and noise issues. ES will continue to do these.
- Nuisance abatement will now go to OCI and ES will handle illegal dumping, tall grass and weeds. The staff that was handling the nuisance abatement will stay with ES but will be given other duties.

DAB members expressed the following: *Responses in Italics*

- Will the training include what inspectors should look for if they suspect METH being produced in a home? *Our inspectors' work closely already with Police and are trained on what to look for but if we encounter this we notify Police first before proceeding.*
- Is the merger due to budgeting process? *This is part of Transforming Wichita initiated from ES. A service adjustment plan was made for OCI*
- Will ES have more or less employees now? *Just one less.*
- You will have more employees but funding will come from general funds, correct? At the NCH, will there be room for inspectors? *Yes, we already have inspectors spend time at the NCH.*
- Any plans to request additional inspectors? *Not at this time.*
- How does this pay for itself?
- This is good that we can call only one number for complaints.
- Do inspectors have wireless computers in their vehicles? *Yes, OCI uses laptops but we need a better solution for wireless. We're looking at TIDEMARK (complaint database) to have a better web base to download to computers for inspectors to know what the issues are when at a site.*
- What about Police involvement? *Some police are proactive on issues but they work their own priorities.*
- OCI does a great job on neighborhood clean up. *We are still getting calls for clean-ups and this year by November 1st we will have done 87 clean-ups.*
- Three yrs ago our neighborhood started doing recycling with our clean up of metals, copper and aluminum. We made money for the association.

Legge finished saying OCI welcomes any neighborhood association with experience of clean up to assist with our yearly training, so people learn from their peers.

Bruce Simkins, resident asked if Kay Johnson was still going to be the supervisor and if the merger would change policy? *No.*

*******Recommended Action:** It is recommended that the District Advisory Board receive and file the report.

Board Agenda

5. DAB meeting time change

Council Member Fearey asked members if they would be interested in changing the starting time for DAB meetings to 6:30p.m. Members were in agreement of the time change.

*******Action:** The District VI Advisory Board recommended changing DAB meeting time to 6:30 p.m. (**Schreck/Skaff 11-0**) the time change would begin at the November 5th meeting.

5-a Selection of First/Second Pro-Tem

Members were asked to serve as First/Second pro-tem for chairing DAB meetings in the council member's absence.

*******Action:** The District VI Advisory Board selected Marsha Carr to serve as First Pro-tem and Carol Skaff to serve as Second Pro-tem (**Schreck/Claycomb 11-0**)

6. Problem Properties

- **North of K-96 and East of Seneca** a business is hauling in construction stuff. This is the first property at K-96/Seneca NE corner
- **KGE:** chemical storage. **Member Schreck** to check what type of chemicals and report to the neighborhood assistant
- We need clarification about parking on property for surfaced and non-surfaced areas
- **37th/Arkansas Convenience Store:** Cars for sale by the owner.

*******Action:** Receive and propose appropriate action.

7. Neighborhood Reports

Orchard Park: Party in Park was successful with around 100 in attendance. Thanks to Sharon and many city staff for attending.

Midtown Home Tour: Oct. 13/14th the tour will be of five homes and St. Paul's Church at 13th and Broadway. Tickets are for sale on line and if you would like to volunteer you can see the homes for free.

Sherwood Glen: Portable sheds are being left unlocked, gas trimmers and tools have been taken.

Amelia Earhart: there is great concern over the amount of horses being allowed in the area. How can we override the horse permits? It was asked if a presentation had been heard on the horse problem before DAB. **Member Randleas** stated she is gathering data on this topic and will report back once she has more information.

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

UPDATES FROM COUNCIL MEMBER

- 2301 N. Salina: the planning case with the paved front yard has turned in their new landscape plan so we should be seeing some changes to the property soon.
- Minisa Bridge repair: Staff will be hosting a neighborhood meeting to make everyone aware of how the project will be handled when closing the bridge and access along 13th street. At the same time construction will also be taking place at the 13th/Broadway intersection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☐ Next DAB meeting will be held on Monday November 5, 2007

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Guests

Veda Koelling

614 W. 41st St N. 67204 Amelia Earhart

Tom Carr

1027 W. River Blvd. RCA

Richard, Charlene Manning

500 Longland Amelia Earhart N.Assoc.

Bruce Simkins

501 W 42nd St. N. Amelia Earhart

J. Prichard

1600 N. Clarence Indian Hills/Riverbend NA

Tim Reynolds

2156 North Sub WPD 688-9500

D.W. Carter

2236 Patrol Nor 688-9500

Enrique Aguiniga de la Torre

Patrol North 688-0500

Cynthia A. Gardner

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