

**DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, December 4, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Council Member Carl Brewer
Treatha Brown-Foster
Gerald Domitrovic
Shane Dundas
Debra K. Miller Stevens
Janice Rich*
Steve Roberts
Inga Taylor
James Thompson
Shontina Tipton
Lavonta Williams

Members Absent

Guests

Beverly Domitrovic, 1219 SW Drive
Eugene Smith, 2220 N. Roosevelt
Andre Brown, Long Beach, CA

***Alternates**

City of Wichita Staff Present

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant
Dale Miller, MAPD
Officer Nate Schwiethale, WPD
Officer Creighton, WPD
Officer Dustin Noll, WPD
Officer F. Phommachanh, WPD
Officer Gerdes, WPD

Order of Business

Call to Order

Council Member Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Approval of Minutes

Brown Foster stated that the address on page 2 should be 2200 North Minneapolis. **Brown Foster (Roberts)** made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried 8-0.

Approval of Agenda

Roberts (Brown Foster) made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried 8-0.

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled Item

No items submitted.

2. Off Agenda Items

No items submitted.

Staff Reports

3. Police Report

Officer Creighton, Patrol South, 21 Beat, reported the following: 1) there have been a few aggravated assaults in Old Town, and 2) offered holiday tips: a) make sure you are aware of your surroundings; b) do not leave valuables in view; c) ladies should not carry purses, if possible; d) realize that Christmas trees invite burglars to rob homes; and e) be aware of your surroundings at shopping malls.

Officer Phommachanh, 38 Beat, reported the following: 1) 31 Beat – there is a project on parking tickets and impounds. To date, 132 parking tickets have been issued; 2) 32 Beat – no report; 3) 38 Beat – 1253 North Pershing, a search warrant was issued resulting in the recovery of guns and drugs; 4) at 825 North Crestway, a sibling shooting occurred; and 5) when purchasing gift cards, make sure that nothing is scratched off of the back, because thieves can go online and make purchases with that card.

Brown Foster asked what are the boundaries for Beat 38? Officer Phommachanh responded Hillside to Edgemoor, Central to 13th Street.

Officer Gerdes, 45 Beat, reported the following: 1) 75 Thanksgiving dinners were delivered to families; and 2) warrants were served on November 29th: 140 attempts and 13 arrests. **Williams** inquired about the club. Gerdes responded that SCAT is monitoring the club, which has been somewhat quiet lately. The City will audit the club in March 2006. The landlord appears to be on the side of the Ken Mar Neighborhood Association.

Roberts (Brown Foster) made a motion to receive and file. Motion carried 10-0.

New Business

4. Wichita Transit

Michael Vincent, Wichita Transit, introduced himself to the board and presented a proposal to increase public transit fares in the City of Wichita, effective January 2007. He explained that the last fare increase (15 cents) was in 1996. Wichita Transit proposes to increase its base bus fare from \$1.00 to \$1.25 and to increase its base van fare from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per ride. In addition, Wichita Transit proposes to eliminate charges for transfers. The fixed-route (bus) fare increase would only affect the 35 percent of current bus riders who do not transfer.

Mr. Vincent explained that fuel prices have doubled since 2004, rising from \$425,000 to \$975,000 in 2006. In addition, the increasing cost and demands for specialized (ADA) accessible transportation (purchased ADA ride costs increased from \$550,000 in 2004 to a projected \$1.1 million in 2006) have put pressure on the Transit Fund.

In a public hearing in November, 24 people provided comments and only six of those comments were negative. He asked that the board recommend approval of the fare adjustments.

(Mr. Vincent's response is in italics)

Williams asked how do we compare to rides in other cities and was the Beat 44 survey questions on bus availability in your report? *Our fares are low in comparison to other cities. The proposed increase would put Wichita in proximity with what other cities currently charge. Fares only cover 25% of transit cost, with ridership affected by the oil price increases. Title 6 tells us the direction for*

services in each district to ensure equitable amount of services. We are looking at extended coverage areas and how we put services out. **Brown Foster** asked if they would still be giving out bus passes, if Transit is responsible for the new bus shelters, what percentage of your budget is federally funded, and had a survey been done for late hour bus needs? *We have gone from punch cards to bus passes, which are coded specifically for adults. We look at shelter accommodations each year. There are proposed locations for shelters that will be examined. As far as the late bus hours, there is a need for a few persons, but not enough to warrant later hours for now.* **Domitrovic** inquired about complimentary services, ADA service costs, and the services contractual. *Our complimentary paraservices are being reviewed. The ADA van service has to closely mirror ADA requirements, otherwise we could be sued. We have 17 vans that provide ADA pictures. 65% are provided by Human Services. In 1978, we were the first community to have para-transit services. There were 330,000 rides this year. It is more costly to provide van service. The long-term plan is to increase the bus service.* **Dundas** asked if the ADA van cost should also be \$1.25 per ride and have they received a recommendation from the Accessibility Advisory Board? He suggested that they ask the AA Board before going to the City Council. *The van service fare would be in alignment with rates of other cities. The van service provides the community with pick-up service as opposed to regular bus service. We are working closely with the advisory board and have received public/private comments and recommendations.* Dundas remarked that a lot of people do not ride the bus because the routes are not good and are pretty confusing. **Thompson** asked about the proposed Meridian route. *We are eliminating one route and reconfiguring to accommodate the most users. This change is also more cost effective.*

Thompson (Taylor) made a motion to support the fare increase. Motion carried 10-0.

5. **ZON2006-00049**

Dale Miller, MAPD, explained that the applicant has requested a zone change from “TF-3” Two-family Residential to “GO” General Office on a 0.72-acre tract generally located north of Central and east of Spruce Street. The tract requested for rezoning currently is vacant and is part of an expanded site for a new, larger facility for the Hunter Health Clinic.

(Miller’s response is in italics)

Miller Stevens asked would the parking be off Central? *Yes.* **Domitrovic** asked what would they do with the alley? *If approved, they would vacate the alley and replatt.*

Roberts (Williams) made a motion to recommend the zone change be approved subject to replatting within one year. Motion carried 10-0.

Unfinished Business

No items submitted.

Board Agenda

6. **Updates, Issues, and Reports**

- **Gilkey** asked for volunteers to take training to install smoke detectors for the elderly. Training would take place, Saturday, December 9th, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., Atwater NCH.
- **Brewer** reported that the District 1 Coalition Breakfast had a nice turnout. Captain Felecia Norris presented last Saturday and did an excellent job. The next District I Coalition Breakfast Meeting will be January 6, 2007, Cisro’s Restaurant.

- **Brewer** announced the next meeting of DAB I will be January 8, 2007, Atwater Neighborhood City Hall. He thanked all of the board members for their hard work in 2006 and said that he looked forward to another productive year in 2007.
- **Brewer** reported that the National League of Cities Conference in Reno, Nevada would cover imminent domain, immigration, and blighted areas.
- **Thompson** stated that the board needed to collect the final monies for the Piatt Park Memorial brick and to decide what wording to place on the brick. **Williams** commented that \$75 has been collected to date, with \$25 more needed.
- **Dundas** reported that the Close Captioning Task Force meeting would be held at Sedgwick County to set up real-time captions on Channel 7. He said he would let the board know about the next meeting.
- **Roberts** thanked the City for getting barricades on the bike trails.
- **Brewer** thanked those who went to visit his grandmother in the hospital. He asked that they be careful when celebrating this holiday season and admonished all to not drink and drive.

With no further business, **Roberts (Brown Foster)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 10-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Virgena Gilkey
Neighborhood Assistant