

District III Advisory Board Minutes
December 7, 2011
www.wichita.gov

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Wichita Water Center at 101 E Pawnee; seven District Advisory Board members were in attendance; 10 City staff and 12 members of the public were present (two did not sign in).

Members Present

Jody Bennett
Terry Brewster
Paul Davis
Elena Ingle
Danny Johnson
Wendy Ratliff
David Robbins
Council Member James Clendenin

Officer Robert Lacy, Patrol South
Officer Claudale Cavanaugh, Patrol South
Battalion Chief Tammy Snow, WFD
Chief Ron Blackwell, WFD
Bill Longnecker, MAPD
Mary Kay Vaughn, Housing and Community
Development
Nate Neises, WFD
Brian Richey, WFD
Janet Johnson, Neighborhood Services

Members Absent

Gay Quisenberry

Guests

Listed on the last page

Staff Present

Officer Nick Long, Patrol East

ORDER OF BUSINESS

At 6:30 p.m. **Council Member Clendenin** called the meeting to order and welcomed Terry Brewster as the newest DAB member. Minutes from the Nov. 2, 2011, meeting were approved.

PUBLIC AGENDA

Scheduled items

No schedule items

Non-Scheduled items

Steven Walters inquired about the status of 2200 E. Pawnee and the railroad study. **Council Member Clendenin** said the owner of 2200 E. Pawnee was given an additional 60 days to remove items he wanted from the property and that time is now up so the condemnation process will proceed forward. He said Transystems is still working on the study and it should be done soon. Once it is completed it will be presented to City Council.

STAFF REPORTS

Community Police Report

Officer Robert Lacy, Beat 28 Patrol South, reported there had been six auto thefts on his beat, but four of them were traced back to a meth house. The primary suspect is now in rehab. Also, Patrol South Community Policing has adopted Houston House for Christmas. It is a low-income Senior Housing facility that is home to around 70 extremely low income citizens. The Officers are collecting donations and will deliver them on Dec. 19th.

Officer Nick Long, Beat 33 Patrol East, said a need for a school crossing has been identified for Jardine Middle School on Ross Parkway. He said the City typically doesn't have protected school crossings at stand alone middle schools, but Jardine has some unique attributes including: a divided street with no breaks that

allow vehicles to speed; a large population of children who walk to school; limited visibility for cars due to buses parked on the street, and early hours that require students to walk to school in the dark. **Council Member Clendenin** said he understood that Public Works might not want to set precedence for doing this, but in his opinion protecting children should be precedence with setting. He said last year a child was struck by a car on Victoria Street while walking home from school; his wife was the first one on the scene and it still affects her.

Officer Long also reported that last month there was a burglary hot spot on the 35 beat, they made an arrest and now the burglaries in that area have dropped significantly. Beats 32 and 34 are also have a number of burglaries – there were seven non residential burglaries and 40 residential burglaries. Several suspects have been identified and Patrol East will be running special assignments to address this crime trend.

Officer Long said sometimes burglars will knock on a door and if someone answers they make up an excuse for knocking and if no one answers they will go to the back of the house and kick the back door in to gain access.

He reminded citizens to not make themselves victims, for example if you purchase a new TV, don't take the box and set it out by your trash can a week before the scheduled pick-up – this simply advertises to burglars what you have in your house.

Wichita Fire Department Report

Division Chief Tammy Snow reported that in addition to their regular duties, fire staff are engaged in two major projects: 1) The Salvation Army boot collections. She said firefighters will be out for the next three weekends collecting donations for this organization and 2) The Battle of the Badges which is the annual Blood Drive contest between police and fire. She also reported that the WFD school programs are going extremely well.

Chief Snow reminded everyone to keep Christmas trees away from heat sources and to keep real trees watered so they don't dry out. She said Wichita has had a number of fire fatalities this year and they are due to two primary causes: careless smoking and unattended cooking fires.

During the month of October she reported District III had 29 fires with eight of them being structure fires. There were 649 EMS calls and 185 service calls for a total of 863 calls compared to a total of 792 calls for the same time last year.

Fire Investigators looked into four fires in the District in November. One was a fatality involving smoking and the use of oxygen; one was at a salvage yard caused by a wood stove; one was in a part caused by an extension cord and one was arson in a vacant apartment.

Terry Brewster said he owns a business at 1930 S. Broadway and the property next to him always seems to have a lot of fire calls. He was wondering what that's about. One of the firefighters present said those are primarily medical calls.

Wendy Ratliff said her son attends Northeast High School and is participating in the fire program and absolutely loves it. She said the program is fabulous.

Roger Smith said his daughter was so interested in fire science after participating at her high school that she went on to Hutch Juco and received a degree in it.

Chief Ron Blackwell was present to provide some information on Battin Apartments. He said there have been four arson fires at the vacant apartments since March, and the Fire Department is working closely with the Police Department investigating those. **Chief Blackwell** said that area is not well lit, and with it now

getting dark at 5 p.m. it leaves a lot of time for mischief. He asked for the public's help in keeping an eye on this area.

Action: Receive and file.

NEW BUSINESS

ZON2011-00034 request for a zone change from SF-5 Single-Family Residential to TF-3 Family Residential

Bill Longnecker, Planning Department, presented a request for a zone change from SF-5 Single-Family Residential to TF-3 Family Residential on the undeveloped Lots 27 and 28, Block H, Washington Heights Addition. The 1997, and subsequent aerials to the present, shows the subject site to be undeveloped. The applicant proposes to build a duplex on each lot.

Longnecker said the site is also located in an Airport Hazard Zone A and the McConnell AOI Adjacent Critical Area of Interest and that McConnell Air Force Base has no problem with the zoning change.

Elena Ingle asked exactly what is going to be built there; **Longnecker** said duplexes.

Terry Brewster said he drove by the property and he wanted to know why a zoning change is being requested if the property is for sale. **Randy Woods**, applicant, said the property has been up for sale for a year and a half and the real estate contract expires this month so he's going to keep it and build duplexes on it.

Steve Randale asked how many structures would be on the property; **Woods** said two duplexes (i.e. four residences) and that it will be new construction.

Dave Robbins wanted to know if a single family residence could still be built on the property after the zoning change; **Longnecker** said yes.

Council Member Clendenin thanked Mr. Woods for being willing to take a vacant piece of property and build nice housing on it.

Terry Brewster (Ingle) made a motion to recommend to City Council that it approve the application for TF-3 Two Family Residential Zoning.

Action: Motion passed 7-0

Nomination of Grants Review Committee Representative

Mary K. Vaughn, Director of Housing and Community Services, asked the District Advisory Board to nominate a member to serve as a District III representative to the Grants Review Committee. **Council Member Clendenin** asked if anyone on the board was interested in serving.

Judy Dillard said she has served on this Committee in the past and it's not easy; there are lots of deserving programs and not enough funding to go around.

Dave Robbins and **Danny Johnson** expressed interest in serving and both gave brief statements as to why they would like to serve.

Paul Davis suggested the DAB hear the next item and then make a decision on the committee appointment. This suggestion was supported by the Board.

Recommendations for FY 2012-2013 Funding Allocations: CDBG, HOME, ESG Funds

Mary K. Vaughn, Director of Housing and Community Services, gave a PowerPoint presentation on CDBG, HOME and ESG funding.

The City submitted a Consolidated Plan for 2009-2013 and staff is soliciting input from the community, as to funding priorities for the fiscal year which starts July 1, 2012 and ends on June 30, 2013. HUD has not announced the City's allocations however in order to meet regulatory dates and deadlines, City staff is soliciting public input into funding priorities so that when the allocations are announced staff will know how to budget the funds to meet the community's priorities.

All District Advisory Board members and the general public are being asked to identify spending priorities CDBG, HOME and ESG. Comments may be submitted in writing at 332 N. Riverview, by email at communityhousing@wichita.gov. Citizens will also be able to comment at City Hall when the Council considers and approves the priorities, and later the allocations. The priority percentages will be presented to the City Council for approval and later applied to the actual funding allocation which HUD will announce in early spring, 2012. There will be changes in the Emergency Shelter Grant program, including a name change: Emergency Solutions Grant.

Vaughn said she expects CDBG dollars to decrease by 11 percent in the next funding cycle and HOME funds by 37 percent.

Dave Robbins asked how many condemnations CDBG dollars paid for in District 3; Vaughn said she would get that information for the DAB.

Janet Johnson said she felt it would be a conflict of interest for Danny Johnson to serve on the CDBG committee; **Vaughn** and **Council Member Clendenin** agreed.

Jody Bennett (Ingle) made a motion to name **Dave Robbins** to the Committee.

Action: Motion passed 7-0

UPDATES, ISSUES AND REPORTS

Council Member Clendenin said the zoning change request on the property near Mt. Vernon and Oliver was before the City Council yesterday and he sent it back to MAPC so the neighborhood will have an opportunity to voice their concerns. **Elena Ingle** asked if he knew the meeting date; **CM Clendenin** said no, but that meeting notices would be sent.

Council Member Clendenin let the Board know that he would be at a meeting in Topeka on the date of the February DAB meeting and asked the Board to decide if they wanted to meet without him; change the date; or if there are no agenda items then cancel the meeting.

Dave Robbins said he was recently at the Office of Central Inspections trying to get a permit and it was such an ordeal he's glad they are looking at consolidation with the County.

Elena Ingle announced the Grandview Heights Neighborhood Association donated \$75 to Halloween in the Park.

Jody Bennett reported she attended the City Council meeting when the Southfork development was discussed and they got a favorable vote on the TIF issue from everyone except District IV Council Member O'Donnell. She said the South Area Neighborhood Association also donated to Halloween in the Park.

Paul Davis said he was proud of how many people from the south area got up and spoke at the City Council meeting regarding the 47th Street TIF proposal. He also brought up the issue of illegal signs and talked about what Des Moines, Iowa, is doing about it. **Davis** said the existing City ordinances on illegal signs need to be enforced and he asked Janet Johnson to forward the information on Des Moines to the rest of the DAB.

Elena Ingle asked if she, as a concerned citizen, could pull illegal signs. **Council Member Clendenin** said there is a debate going on about that and his answer for now would be “no.”

Danny Johnson welcomed Terry Brewster to the DAB and said how pleased he was over the passing of the TIF for 47th Street.

Wendy Ratliff announced Colvin Elementary students received their free shoes, hats and gloves from Payless and Boeing. Numbers at the Lord’s Diner on Hillside are down, and no one is quite sure why. The new Save A Lot store has opened, as well as a new Dollar General store in the Planeview neighborhood.

Terry Brewster thanked everyone for welcoming him and said he wants the Southfork Development to be successful, but he has an issue with the CID. He said he’d like for Council Member Clendenin to get a group of people together to discuss the CID. **Jody Bennett** said she wouldn’t be opposed to discussing it further and maybe there are compromises that could be reached, like shortening the time.

Elena Ingle announced that the free tax service, sponsored by AARP, will start at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall in February.

Jody Bennett said she was pleased to see the City Council Members responding from the bench to the misinformation that some citizens put out during the meetings. She said the Council Members have a responsibility to the public to set the record straight.

Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting for District Advisory Board III will be held at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 4, 2012, at the Water Center at 101 E. Pawnee.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Johnson, Neighborhood Assistant – District III

Guests

Connie Klassen
Roger Smith
Judy Dillard
Jan Hunt
Steven Walters
Pat White
Teresa Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Woods
Steve Randale
Two residents from 3026 S. Oliver