

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

**Monday, November 6, 2006**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19<sup>th</sup>, 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

**Members Absent**

Lavonta Williams

**Guests**

Beverly Domitrovic, 1219 SW Drive  
Eugene Smith, 2220 N. Roosevelt

**\*Alternates**

**City of Wichita Staff Present**

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant  
Don Henry, Environmental Services  
Officer Justin Whyte, WPD  
Officer Bill Stevens, WPD  
Sgt. James Espinoza, WPD  
Elizabeth Goltry, Finance  
Scott Wadle, Planning

**Order of Business**

**Call to Order**

**Council Member Brewer** called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Brown Foster (Roberts)** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried 7-0.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Council Member Brewer** stated that Don Henry, Environmental Services, would be added to the Public Agenda. **Roberts (Brown Foster)** made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

**Public Agenda**

**1. Environmental Services**

**Don Henry, Environmental Services**, thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. He stated that a full report would be provided at the next DAB meeting in December. Mr. Henry then provided a brief overview of the department and reported the following services: neighborhood code enforcement, Animal Control, food protection, childcare licensure/registration, outdoor air quality monitoring, and monitor/inspect water walls (Water Quality Team). He then handed out a data sheet that listed statistical data for District 1, as well as a Neighborhood Eyes and Ears sheet for citizens to send in complaints.

**The board received and filed.**

## 2. Off Agenda Items

No items submitted.

### Staff Reports

#### 3. Police Report

**Sgt. James Espinoza, Patrol South**, introduced himself as a 14-year veteran with the department. He now works in SCAT and concentrates more on gang related issues. He is working with management of Club Exotica and Club Maxis where gang members hang out.

*(Sgt. Espinoza's response is in italics)*

**Brown Foster** asked if there are any residential areas where gang activities are occurring and are there MS 13's in Wichita? *South City has a problem with drugs/gang activity and there was a residence shot 7 or 8 times at 1616 South Gold. We are currently checking curfews of gang members weekly to reduce incidents. MS 13's are not prevalent in Wichita. We have two or three wannabe's.* **Domitrovic** asked what makes a gang interested in Wichita? *Most are born and raised in Wichita. We are seeing 2<sup>nd</sup> generation gang members. In the beginning, gangs came to the Midwest for drug trade.*

**Officer Bill Stevens, 23 Beat**, reported the following: 1) a survey was distributed in Old Town to address lighting issues and needed upgrades on City owned property (poles that needed replacing, tree trimming, parking lots accessed, signage, etc.); 2) 1320 South Market was a reported gang/drug house. Currently working with the landlord who served an eviction three weeks ago due. This issue has been resolved and the case closed; 3) 800 S. Broadway, 34 arrests were made in that area (4 were gang members); 4) there is a decrease in burglaries at 900 South Topeka and have move further south; 5) Historic South Wichita Christmas Tour will take place in December. An additional trolley is needed for the tour; 6) the Home Buyers Fair, held in October, was a success. He thanked Council Member Brewer for attending. **Council Member Brewer** stated that he would pay for the additional trolley.

**Officer White, 32 Beat**, reported the following: 1) Officer Bogle sent a report that a house was broken into twice in one week at 900 North Pershing. The homeowner agreed to allow officers in the home while at work. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the suspects were caught and the property owner recovered all his property. They are educating citizens on how not to become a victim during the holiday season.

*(Officer White's response is in italics)*

**Domitrovic** commented that it appears that lots of burglaries are happening to people who live nearby. How does Neighborhood Watch help? *Being the nosy neighbors where the community is the eyes and ears for us is a big help.*

**Officer Paul Kimble, Patrol North**, reported the following: 1) Officer Jones reported that 2400 East Mossman has drug and gang activity. The gang activity is under control and the landlord is trying to obtain an eviction; 2) the Zodiac Club, 13<sup>th</sup> & Oliver, currently has the capacity of 123 and plans to increase that capacity to 250. This club is still an issue, however, the tenant cooperates with the licensing requirements; and 3) 2200 East Minneapolis, a shooting occurred, the suspect was interviewed and found not guilty.

Miller-Stevens arrived at 7:40 p.m.

**Brown Foster** commented that there is still a lot of gang activity at 2200 North Minneapolis. She thanked Officer Smith for handling the noise complaints.

**The board received and filed.**

### New Business

#### **4. Engineering Survey**

**Melanie Lightner, WSU**, presented a survey being conducted for the City of Wichita Engineering Division and asked that board members and the audience fill out the surveys and return. The surveys were filled and given to Ms. Lightner.

**The survey was filled out and returned.**

#### **5. 2007 Grants Review Committee Appointee**

**Staff** requested the board appoint a representative from District 1 for the 2007 Grants Review Committee. This committee meets a minimum of three times to review applications from agencies applying for CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds.

**Council Member Brewer** asked for a show of hands for all those interested in serving. **Taylor** reported that **Lavonta Williams** was unable to attend the board meeting, but wished to be considered.

By the vote of the board **Debra Miller Stevens** was appointed as the 2007 Grants Review appointee for District 1.

#### **6. Citizen Survey and Transforming Wichita Review**

**Elizabeth Goltry, City of Wichita intern**, presented the results of the 2006 Citizen Survey, which is comprised of the five Transforming Wichita goal areas established by the City Council and the sixth goal, Internal Perspective.

Ms. Goltry explained that 3000 surveys were mailed out in April 2006 and one-third responded with 15% (143) coming from District 1. Through a PowerPoint presentation, the survey outcomes as well as specified goal areas and departmental relationship to those goal areas were reviewed.

*(Ms. Goltry's response is in italics)*

**Dundas** asked what citizens received the survey? He stated that most of the people who answered the survey were not aware of what is happening in Wichita. *A random sample of surveys was distributed throughout the City. Not knowing about Wichita also provides feedback as to how we need to better market our services. For example, not taking the transit is not a non-answer. However, your concerns could be more explored in a focus group.* **Brown Foster** referenced question 10F and asked how do we rate the quality of trash service? *The City would have to be in the trash business for this question. Consultants do this in several cities, so some of the questions are generic, but usable. For example, we don't have a senior services program, but we do have services for seniors.*

**The board provided comment.**

## Unfinished Business

No items submitted.

## Board Agenda

### 7. Updates, Issues, and Reports

- **Brown Foster** inquired about the Boys and Girls Club need for Christmas toys. **Brewer** responded that he had not received the compiled list as of yet. However, he is asking for individuals to assist with purchasing gifts for children in need.

She announced that NE Millair Neighborhood Association would host their last meeting of the year on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and are looking for a place to host it. Staff agreed to see if the Atwater facility would be available on that date.

- **Taylor** reported that the board has purchased a brick for the Piatt Park Memorial.
- **Rich** reported that their new neighborhood association now has a temporary board and is now named Hyde Neighborhood Association. The next meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Spice Merchant.
- **Gilkey** announced Operation Holiday applications are being accepted at the Neighborhood City Halls through December 1<sup>st</sup> and asked that the word be spread to need individuals and families. Also, a partnership has been formed with the Department on Aging to install smoke detectors in the homes of senior citizens. Volunteers are needed to take training for the installation in coming months.
- **Brewer** announced the Holiday Luncheon, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. to show City employees our appreciation for their hard work all year. He also announced that Rainbow United would be building a new facility west of Chisholm Creek Park. The issue is that it will be built in a flood plain area.

Lastly, he announced the next District 1 Coalition Breakfast would be held December 2<sup>nd</sup> and the DAB meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>. He told the members to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

**The board received and filed.**

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Virdena Gilkey  
Neighborhood Assistant