

District IV Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2011
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The **District IV Advisory Board Meeting** was held at the 6:30 p.m. at the Lionel Alford Branch Library, 3447 S Meridian. Ten (10) DAB members, nine(9) staff and approximately two (2) citizens were present.

Members Present

Ben Saucedo
Matt Goolsby
Bruce Werth
Tabitha Lehman
Nancy Wilhite
June Bailey
Michael Ackerman, Jr.
Jerry Warren
Josh Blick
John Whitmer

Staff Present

Kelli Geier, City Manager's Office
Officer Long, Police
Doug Kupper, Director of Park and Recreation
Karen Holmes, Park and Recreation
5 fire staff

Order of Business

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

The November 7, 2011 agenda was approved as submitted (**Saucedo/Ackerman, Jr.: 9-0**)

The October 3, 2011 meeting minutes were approved as submitted (**Saucedo/Blick: 9-0**)

PUBLIC AGENDA

The public agenda allows members of the public to present issues not on the agenda to the District Advisory Board. Each presentation is limited to five minutes unless extended by the Board.

1. Scheduled Items

No items were submitted.

2. Off-Agenda Items

No items were submitted.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Public Safety Reports

3. Community Police Report

Staff present reported the following:

- A/C unit thefts are increasing
- Poaching in Pawnee Prairie Park
- Cell phone theft increasing

Action Taken: Received and filed.

4. Fire Report

No report was given

NEW BUSINESS

5. Osage Recreation Center RFP

Doug Kupper, Director of Park and Recreation, and Karen Holmes, Park and Recreation addressed the Board regarding the status and process used in the City's Request for Proposal (RFP) for the use of Osage Recreation Center. **Kupper** explained that in 2008, the City reviewed park and recreation services through the PROS plan and due to the construction of the south YMCA, downturn of the economy and restructure of the park maintenance department, that Osage Recreation Center services will now be outsourced to another private organization. They sent out an RFP requesting a minimum of 25 hours of recreation activities at the center due to federal funding regulations. **Kupper** mentioned that this has also occurred with grass trimming and that they are in the third year of three of one year renewal option contract, but are looking to expand this next year and add some additional things to the RFP specifications, such as hedge and tree trimming.) Additionally, **Kupper** stated that 14 staff were eliminated and the budget was reduced significantly.

Kupper announced that this item is going before the City Council November 15 and that Unfortunately a newspaper article prematurely revealed that the Urban League of Kansas was One of the respondents.

Bailey asked what types of services the Urban League provides. **Kupper** said that they provide career and youth development services; as well as, reeducation and retooling and a majority of their clients served are from the district IV. The Urban League planned to move a majority of their services to Osage Recreation Center if awarded the proposal. Bailey also asked if the Urban League were going to hire more employees and **Kupper** responded that they were and so they needed more space than their current facility provided. **Bailey** further questioned if the park would shut down. **Kupper** replied that is not an option, as there is federal money invested in the center so it cannot close. **Kupper** further stated that the main issue with the center is the ongoing utility costs and that they are working with public works to separate the building costs from the interactive fountain costs.

Blick inquired about an email from City staff containing misinformation about the

number of respondents to this RFP and the identity of that respondent. **Kupper** stated that the staff member, Ms. Holmes, was new to the organization and not yet versed in the RFP process and this issue has since been corrected and that there were actually two respondents to the Osage RFP.

Goolsby asked if the airconditioning breaks who is responsible? **Kupper** stated that the tenant is only responsible for small repairs.

Whitmer asked if it would be a \$1/year lease? **Kupper** said no, but if the City Council decides not to go with the contract then that may be an option, but staff is looking at a way to generate revenue and maintain the facility. He stated that the utilities for the building run about \$30,000/year.

Bailey asked what the length of the lease will be. **Kupper** responded that it will be year to year for right now, but down the line that may be renegotiated. Bailey also asked for confirmation that the Urban League is willing to move almost all of their operations for the promise of a year lease. **Kupper** confirmed that the Urban League is willing to do this because they really feel that they will bring value to the community. **Bailey** added that if they are willing to do this that is great and that a year lease allows us to look at other options if the tenant is not upholding their end of the bargain. She also stated that the restrooms must stay open to the public.

Goolsby, Lehman and **Whitmer** all stated that they cannot provide input because they are not allowed to see the two RFPs.

Lehman stated that we need to make sure kids are safe if they are sent inside the building and they need kid friendly programs.

Warren asked how sound the building is? **Kupper** stated that it had tuckpoint a few years ago, a good roof and it was a quality building.

Goolsby asked if the building is ADA accessible? **Kupper** stated that it is.

Darlene Nuse, 2021 Jewell, expressed concern for the neighborhood regarding the clientele that the Urban League may serve and suggested that Osage could also be used as a storm shelter building.

Action Taken: Provided feedback and input.

OLD BUSINESS

6. No items were submitted

BOARD AGENDA

7. Board Updates and Issues

- **Councilmember O'Donnell** announced that the conceal and carry issue will be heard by the City Council in two weeks and the Council's objective is to get the City into compliance with state law regarding this issue since State law supercedes City code.
- **Lehman** has been appointed Sedgwick County Interim Election Commissioner.

8. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.