

District IV Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2007
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The **District IV Advisory Board Meeting** was held at the 7:00 p.m. at the Lionel Alford Branch Library. In attendance were eight (8) District Advisory Board members, six (6) staff and approximately five (5) citizens with five (5) signing in.

Members Present

Nancy Wilhite
Joshua Blick
Mary Cockburn
Hestel Sewell
Peggy Bennett
Ed Koon
Gerald Marsh
Jim Benton

Staff Present

Sergeant Bolan, Police
Officer Carlson, Police
Kelli Glassman, City Manager's Office
John Schlegel, Planning
Derrick Slocum, Planning
Chief Williams, Police

Members Absent

Tom Engelmann
Michael Gisick

Order of Business

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Cockburn (Wilhite) moved to approve the agenda for the August 1, 2007 meeting. Motion passed 8-0.

Wilhite (Benton) moved to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2007 meeting. Motion passed 8-0.

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

3. Community Police Report

Officer Carlson reported that community officers are handling more drug complaints because SCAT officers are focusing on gang activity. Officers are doing more knock and talks and trying to follow through with complaints better in order to decrease drug and gang activity. Officers are also concentrating on finding and arresting people on warrants in their areas. There have also been traffic concerns at 31st and Seneca, Pawnee and Seneca and 47th and Broadway. In addition, officers are also working to address the problem of abandoned vehicles.

Police Chief Williams also addressed the board. He stated that crime has decreased steadily overall the first six months of this year compared to last, which holds true for district 4. Chief Williams also stated the department is working hard to decrease gang activity. In responding to Board member questions, Chief Williams stated that the department has a new helicopter with infrared, geomapping, etc. and that he is working with officials in D.C. to secure homeland security funds for a second helicopter. Helicopters are used in vehicle pursuits and missing persons cases. Williams also explained that a common denominator for murder-suicides is domestic violence or health issues. Chief Williams further stated that home monitoring devices are now being used for felony and misdemeanor offenses. Chief Williams also discussed that the level of gang activity present today is not the same as in the 90's. More gang members have been charged with federal convictions and remain in prison for a long time. Finally, he reminded everyone that National Night Out is August 7 with the kick-off party starting at 4:00 p.m. at the WSU Hughes Metroplex. This is a national event, which allows neighborhoods to organize a wide range of activities in order to become better acquainted with neighbors and reduce crime.

Action Taken: Received and filed.

New Business

4. DR2007-05

John Schlegel, Director of Planning, presented Proposed Amendments to the Unified Zoning Code Pertaining to Wireless Communication Facilities. On June 5, 2007, the City Council voted to initiate an amendment of the Unified Zoning Code regulations pertaining to wireless communication facilities. Initiating an amendment of the Unified Zoning Code does not indicate City Council support for or approval of specific zoning regulations. Rather, it indicates a City Council desire to consider improvements to the zoning regulations and a desire to embark upon a public input and review process to develop those improvements, including a recommendation by each of the District Advisory Boards. The entire public input and review process is:

Activity

Timing

City Council authorization of zoning code text amendments	June 2007
Review of proposed amendments with wireless industry	July 2007
Review of proposed amendments with District Advisory Boards	August and September 2007
Planning commission review of proposed amendments	October 2007
Governing body approval of proposed amendments	November 2007

The proposed amendments to the Unified Zoning Code address:

1. The eligibility of properties for administrative approval of towers. In order to be administratively approved, a tower would have to be located on a designated property. The properties proposed to be designated as eligible for administrative approval of towers are shown on a map entitled “Properties Eligible for an Administrative Permit for a Wireless Communication Facility.”
2. Adjustments to the height and setback criteria for administratively-approved towers are proposed. Taller towers could be approved administratively in NO, Neighborhood Office; GO, General Office; NR, Neighborhood Retail; and LC, Limited Commercial zoning districts. Administratively-approved towers would be required to comply with a setback requirement from low-density residential properties equal to one foot of setback per foot of tower height. The proposed amendments to the Unified Zoning Code are shown in an attached document entitled “Proposed Amendments to Wireless Communication Facility Regulations.”
3. Presently, the Unified Zoning Code permits the construction of a new tower if it is less expensive than co-locating on an existing tower. The proposed amendments eliminate this “economic feasibility” test, meaning that a new tower need not be approved simply because it is less expensive than locating on an existing tower.
4. The proposed amendments include technical clarifications regarding the applicability of the regulations to all wireless communication facilities regardless of a property’s zoning.
5. The proposed amendments include updates to the aircraft warning light regulations to comply with changes in Federal regulations.
6. The proposed amendments include technical clarifications regarding the parties responsible for removal of unused towers.

The Board asked the following questions (*Mr. Schlegel’s responses are in italics*):

- 1.) Will this allow the whole City to have wireless capability? *The extent of wireless coverage throughout the City cannot be accurately determined because staff is unsure of all tower locations.*

2.) How do cell towers find locations to operate? *They contact owners of the property that they wish to locate the tower on and lease from them.*

3.) Can the school district's new towers be used in this technology? *These towers are not tall enough for this technology.*

4.) How far do cell tower signals reach? *This depends upon the tower.*

Action Taken: Blick (Benton) moved to recommend approval of the proposed amendments. Motion passed 8-0.

5. CON2007-00029

Derrick Slocum, Planning, presented this request for a conditional use for indoor vehicle sales on the South side of Douglas Avenue and East of Oak Street (621 West Douglas Avenue.) The building on the subject property has an existing garage door, accessible from the platted alley immediately south. The applicant submitted the site plan illustrating the proposed parking area, behind the building, and access to the site from the front and the rear. No alterations to the structure are needed for the proposed use. The applicant has indicated that the use will be limited to the display of motor scooters and the recommended conditions of approval reflect this request.

Action Taken: Benton (Sewell) moved to recommend approval of the request. Motion passed 8-0.

OLD BUSINESS

6. No items submitted.

BOARD AGENDA

7. Board Updates and Issues

Wilhite announced that there would be a McCormick NA Clean-up on August 18.

Sewell asked for clarification on police procedure to handle car noise complaints. Chief Williams explained that he would have his staff contact Mr. Sewell to resolve his issue.

Bennett announced that their neighborhood's National Night Out party would be at her house.

Blick announced that the Southwest Neighborhood Association Clean-up went great.

It was stated that any neighborhood association wishing to see a presentation on tasers should contact Lt. Vaughn.

Council Member Gray announced that there would be no September district breakfast.

Action Taken: Received and Filed.

8. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.