

Southwest Area Partnership Minutes October 15, 2008

At Eicher Commons, Taylor University

Total Present: 34, but only 27 signed the attendance sheet.

Chair, Adrienne Maurer called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Introductions followed.

Dan Avery of Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council gave an excellent presentation on the 2030 Transportation Plan. The Plan focuses on 3 main areas: highway, transit, and the bike and pedestrian areas. Future growth, land-use trends, and redevelopment activities areas are important considerations. Dan Avery spoke on various southwest road construction improvements, bridge improvement plans, and the widening of the Lafayette Street viaduct.

A question and answer followed with questions on bike paths along Illinois Rd., at Wayne & Berry, and Rudisull Blvd. He explained the method of road counts: done for 48 hours, at a cost of at least \$100, with about 1000 counts done each year on major streets.

A presentation was given on the November Referendum on Township vs. County responsibility for Assessors duties, due to State Bill 1001 which affects Aboite, St. Joseph and Wayne townships. Assessors statewide use the same method of assessment, but a different approach to services may apply. There were questions from Billie Rykard, Mike Anderson, Carolyn DeVoe, and Grant Shipley that were answered in detail. Handouts were given out on the referendum.

Ken Nicolet, Southwest Neighborhood Advocate, spoke on:

- The meeting today of Taylor University officials and city officials on the closing of Taylor University, and the \$1M loss each year for the Fort Wayne campus.

- The recently completed left-turn lane at Jefferson and Freeman intersection.

- The crosswalks at the Imagine School on Broadway & Creighton and at Oakdale & the Bluffton Road bridge.

- The Broadway Corridor meeting presented great ideas and plans for Broadway improvement. Information can be obtained by going to the Broadwayfortwayne.com web site.

- For those who still cannot telephone 311, you can call 427-8311 for the same results.

FWPD Deputy Chief Doug Lucker, spoke on:

- The affect the closing of Taylor University will have on the police department.

- The opening of the new shopping center at Illinois Rd. & Thomas Road in relation to future crime.

- September vehicle-break-in crimes went up in mainly the Aboite area of the southwest.

- Copper thefts are down due to the falling prices on used copper, but petty crimes represent most of the recent crimes, along with identity thefts of credit cards and social security numbers.

FWPD Captain Steve Happner spoke on changes of some NLO's due to the increase to 159 neighborhoods in the southwest quadrant and only about 60 NLO's available.

Marcia Heymann gave the BZA report for October's BZA meeting.

The Secretary Report was approved as read.

Billie Rykard gave a Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$526.20.

Grant Shipley spoke on the November SWAP election. He sent a letter to all eligible and so far has at least 1 candidate for each office (Adrienne Maurer, Chair., Diane Imbody, V-Chair, Billie Rykard, Treasurer, and Marge Johnson, Secretary), but encourages nominations from the floor on Nov. 19th.

Carolyn DeVoe suggested a Memorial Donation for Casey Chesney, approved at \$100 with a motion of Grant Shipley, and 2nd by Steve Morgan.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Marge Johnson, Acting Secretary