

**Southwest Area Partnership  
Minutes  
August 20, 2008**

At Eicher Commons, Taylor University

Total Present: 37, but only 33 signed the attendance sheet.

Chair, Adrienne Maurer called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.  
She welcomed our new southwest Police Captain Steve Happner.

Roger McNeill and Jim Keefer of INDOT gave an excellent presentation on the Illinois Road widening project from I-69 to past Scott Road which is started and construction is scheduled to be complete by August, 2010. It will be a 5-lane road with a middle turn lane, a bike trail on one side, and a sidewalk on the other. A question and answer period followed.

Grant Smith of Citizens Action Coalition spoke on possible use of the \$40 million City Light & Power Trust Fund available in 2009 for a energy efficiency program with long term benefits that would help reduce utility costs for residents and businesses as well as create jobs. For every \$1 spent for efficiency you can save \$2. He urged us to contact our Mayor to let the city know of our concerns for energy efficiency and utility cost savings. The Trust Fund can be used for anything and decisions on its use will be made soon.

Ken Nicolet, FW Southwest Advocate, made several community announcements on the Small Business Fair, the Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> Waynedale Community Picnic, the Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> meeting on Vacant & Abandoned Structures from 9-2, and the Mayor's kick-off of "Don't Miss A Beat" for the October CPR program which is important for all of the community.

Adrienne Maurer that Septembers SWAP meeting will be on Abandoned Homes.  
A member voiced concern about an unauthorized berm being built and completed at the Coventry Court apartment area which would have a negative impact on the Woodhurst area to the west.

Doug Lucker, FW Police Department SW Deputy Chief, introduced Captain Steve Happner. Crime stats for SW are doing very well in comparison with the other 3 quadrants. In June crime dropped 4.9% in SW. Crime was slightly up only 1 month in 2008, and down the rest of the year. Southwest quadrant is stopping criminals, and in 90% of the cases citizens are helping to get the crimes solved. Deputy Chief Lucker encouraged citizens to help by getting involved and caring about their neighbors.

A brief BZA report was given.

Secretary's Minutes were approved by a motion by Billie Rykard and seconded by Grant Shipley. Treasurer's Report was given with expenses for food, Waynedale picnic, and National Night Out, leaving a current balance of \$626.20.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Billie Rykard made a motion that SWAP donate \$200.00 to PAPA for hosting National Night Out which was discussed and voted on for approval.

Jim Seckler gave a report on the city consultant fees information which was asked for at the June meeting that from 12/31/07 to 6/19/08 the city of Fort Wayne paid out \$10,188,912.00 in outside consultants fees, or approximately \$1,567,000.00 a month. Some in attendance felt our city could make better use of our tax money when considering reducing our city budget. Thanks to Jim Seckler for getting SWAP the information from the city.

Councilman Mitch Harper spoke on the flood light ordinance before City Council and expressed a need for more definite and better wording before approval by City Council.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Marge Johnson, Acting Secretary