



Southwest Area Partnership

November 18, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Call to order and welcome was given by Adrienne Maurer. This was followed by introductions around the room.

The first presenter on the agenda was Gina Kostoff. She spoke about the upcoming CEDIT application process; and what to expect. There has been some confusion about some changes that were implemented. She clarified and reassured the gathering that the process is back "in-house". The same form is being used. A 12/31/09 deadline has been set for the completed application. Assessment of the applications is on a need basis with infrastructure at the highest priority. The method of allocation is slightly different, in the fact that the decisions are no longer made, exclusively, by the city councilperson from each district. There will be an emphasis on residential concrete work with cost sharing as an important factor. The goal is to get the most mileage as possible from the dollars available. She recommended being very specific in the requests. She reiterated that the Mayor is committed to the CEDIT money distribution program and will respect the input of the city council.

Gina also mentions 1 ½ million dollars coming from a different "bucket of money" for additional residential concrete work. In addition to that they will be implementing a pilot program for sidewalk hazard elimination. It involves a new method of repairing dangerous sidewalks with less labor and materials.

Ken Nicolet addressed the group and reported that he had talked to Gary Cooper from Ambassador, concerning progress with the Taylor University campus. There has been no firm commitment from anyone; but he did say that there has been a lot of interest and traffic. 2010 is a census year. You can earn between \$10.00 and \$13.00 / hour-part time. Ken gave a phone number of 1-866-861-2010 to apply for one of these temporary positions. Ken reported that leaf pickup is behind; but they are working to get caught up. State Rd 14 at Scott and Hamilton Roads is slated to start in 2013.

Ken then told us a little about what the mayor's advocate's responsibilities are. The advocate is, primarily a liaison between the mayor and the neighborhoods' leaders. He presented us with the statistics for the last 9 months; and mentioned that the, relatively, new "311" program has helped answer many of the questions that he would have handled, personally. Carolyn Devoe gave her testimony of the good job that Ken Nicolet has done for the Southwest Area. She mentioned his dedication to DAR and his leadership.

Steve Haffner from the Fort Wayne Police Department gave the current crime report statistics. Recently, there had been 13 residential robberies and 15 business break-ins. 58 residential burglaries had been recorded. Steve's footnote was that these are usually not committed by strangers of the victims. Even with the numbers he presented, crime was down 7.6% from the previous year. He warned us all to be careful on Black Friday...to be smart and not be a victim.

BZA information was presented by Adrienne Maurer. A petition was dropped by Promise House. There was a request for a variance for a Haunted House in a residential/wooded area near Taylor and Jefferson. It was mentioned that this would be one step from progressing to a commercial use. It was decided that this was a bad use for the property; and SWAP voted against the variance. Jim Sechler mentioned that there are plans for a new Kroger gas station on Bluffton road.

Beulah presented the Community Service Council calendar. December's meeting was to address Community disaster preparedness. January 7, 2010 is an open meeting about what has been happening to the stimulus money.

Billie Rykard reported a \$413.24 balance in the SWAP treasury.

Grant Shipley led the discussion and voting on changes to the SWAP bylaws. All changes were accepted with minor changes. New bylaws details are available from the SWAP chair. Adrienne thanked the committee for all their hard work.

Adrienne presented perfect attendance awards to Dee Jackson. She, also, acknowledged Darrell, Dean and Don for attending 9 out of 10 meetings in the past year. The “Sweaky Wheel” award went to Marilyn Miller for her tenacity involving the Lawn and Turf’s illegal dike building for flood control. Ken Nicolet was given a framed photo of the city by Marge Johnson in honor of the great job that he does for the city.

Elections were held with Adrienne and Billie retaining their current offices. Carolyn Devoe was elected Secretary and Marilyn Miller was elected Vice-Chair. All offices were filled by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Imbody