

Capitol View-Stift Station Neighborhood Association Meeting

June 13, 2016

2715 W. 7th Street – 7:00 pm

Call to Order: Nancy Sheehan called the meeting to order.

May Meeting Minutes: Robert Walker moved to approve the minutes. Harold Payne seconded. Two changes were noted:

1. “National Neighborhood Association Meeting” should read “National Neighborhood USA Association Meeting”
2. “Officer Kelly” should read “Officer Kelley Crace”

Minutes approved by consensus.

Treasurer’s Report: None. Sophie Mitchell is out sick.

City Director’s Report: Kathy Webb

- Noted that yard signs were available at the meeting supporting the Little Rock School District.
- Thursday, June 30: Ward 3 neighborhood meeting with Michael Poore at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church, 6:00 – 7:0 pm. Information on parking and building access will be sent in the future.
- Noted awareness of the petition regarding parking on Capitol Ave.
- Tuesday, June 21: Johnny Key will be speaking at the City Board Meeting. The meeting location may be changed to accommodate a larger-than-usual expected crowd.

Legislative Report: Warwick Sabin

- Legislature has had three recent sessions:
 - Special session to approve ARWorks (re-branding of the Private Option)
 - Fiscal session to expenditure and budget approvals
 - Special session to approve the Governor’s proposal for highway funding (~\$50 million).
 - Not aware of any currently planned future special sessions.

Neighborhood Watch: Victoria Brown, Little Rock Police Department, (501) 918-5358

- Discussed creating and rejuvenating neighborhood watch programs and noted three models currently in use in the city:
 - Coordinated patrols and schedule, identification of neighborhood watch members and patrols. This model requires background checks and finger printing. In use currently in Briarwood.
 - Crime watch meetings on a regular basis and creation of a list serv to share information.
 - Informal email communication, meetings as needed.

- Herb Hawn noted that past experience has been that the department was not particularly responsive when neighborhood watch members called in with issues.
 - Ms. Brown noted that all calls are prioritized and handled according to communication policies depending on the type of call and level of urgency. The benefit of neighborhood watch is that Ms. Brown can help follow up within the department and with the appropriate divisions.

Law Enforcement Update: Officer Goodlow

- Provided a crime map for the area for the last 30 days. There have been 3 commercial, 3 residential, and 1 vehicle burglaries reported. Robert noted that his research shows different crime numbers.
- Discussed recent issues with 610 W. Oak Street. There have been multiple calls regarding the property in the last 12 months, including shots fired, domestic violence, and loud music. Noted that placing a property on the abatement list requires a high threshold of complaints and issues at a location.
 - When reporting an issue, always give the exact address.
 - If confronted, report harassment to the police department.
- Resource: Little Rock Data Portal (<https://data.littlerock.org/>)

UAMS Police Department: Chief Robert Barrentine, (501) 686-7777

- UAMS has a 40 person police department and an MOU with the Little Rock Police Department.
- Noted awareness of parking issues in the surrounding neighborhoods involving UAMS employees. Someone has been placing fliers on cars with the wrong phone number for UAMS.
- UAMS Police Department is interested in working with the surrounding communities, including potentially pushing officers a bit further out on patrols.

Code Enforcement: Greg Massanelli, Director of Little Rock Code Enforcement

- Discussed recent issues with 610 W. Oak Street. There will be a rental inspection of the property.

Neighborhood Resource Center: Kathleen Countryman

- Noted neighborhood concerns sheet and prescription drug flier that were available at the meeting.
- Summer Cereal Drive is going on right now. Drop off items Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Committee Reports:

- Property Standards: Tanya Hollifield
 - No new information this month.
 - The Markham Street neighborhood sign needs weeding. Noted that better lights would be nice for the sign. Ms. Sheehan requested an email on the subject for consideration.

- Ms. Sheehan noted that there are now permits posted right now for the lot on Thayer and Capitol that has been cleared. She has copies of city permits for review if anyone interested.
- Public Safety / Crime Watch: Melisa Clark
 - Volunteers needed to join the neighborhood watch.
- Hospitality: Anita Southard
 - Need volunteers to bring food for future meetings.
- Public Relations and Media: No Update

Community Garden Update: Anita Southard

- Applied for and received a Love Your Block grant. Building two new picnic tables and wheel barrows.
- 20 Year Celebration will be planned for the garden this year.
- Volunteers and new members welcome at the garden – Saturday mornings best time to come.

Rose Creek Trail Expansion

- Working on finalizing last parcel donations.
- Preservation Grant for WPA constructed bridges and wall applied for, but nothing has been heard back yet.

Other Announcements

- Monday, June 20: 2017 Consolidated Plan Annual Update meeting at 6:00 pm at the Neighborhood Resource Center on 12th Street.
- National Neighborhood USA Association Meeting – Robert provided a summary / highlights.
- I-630 UAMS Exist Meeting – Ms. Sheehan attended. There was no presentation regarding an exit and currently no plan or funding for an exit. Ms. Webb noted recent blog post regarding UAMS funding. Leslie Taylor from UAMS also attended Saturday and confirmed this information.

Meeting Adjourned