

Capitol View-Stiff Station Neighborhood Association

June 11, 2012

2715 W. 7th Street – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order:

Facilitator, Kathleen Countryman called the meeting to order.

Special Guest – Police Chief Stuart Thomas:

Steve Chapman introduced Little Rock Police chief, Stuart Thomas.

Steve asked the neighborhood association to thank the chief and Captain Bewley for their prompt response to recent violent crimes in the neighborhood.

Chief Thomas reported that some of the rapid response was a result of things that the force is doing.

The new 1% sales tax gives them the chance to reorganize internally, which will allow them to distribute motorcycles more evenly, obtain new vehicles, get traffic detectives dispersed and move the Quiet Nights unit to the Violent Crime unit.

Personnel was also redistributed and they will have vacancies for 80 officers. The force will be working with the school district to form a truancy center and testing new technologies.

The preliminary design for their new 12th Street facility has been finished and will go out to bid. The 700 W. Markham police headquarters will also be remodeled.

He also reported that 20 new code officers and more animal control officers would be coming on board

Chief Thomas introduced Captain Bewley who provided crime information on the first quarter in CVSSNA.

The captain reported that he has new divisions that have weekly crime meetings. They look at trends in crime and use statistics to concentrate their efforts.

In answer to questions from residents the captain stated that the majority of calls from the neighborhood came from Cedar to Woodrow streets and that residents could help police by calling Sergeant Cheryl Wood at 918-5130 at the downtown division with problems anytime.

Officer Smith gave his LRPD report. He said that residents should continue to report suspicious persons in the neighborhood. He reported his prior contact with the perpetrator of a burglary and murder on Thayer Street.

Any issues with the neighborhood should be reported to Officer Smith in Officer Crace's absence over the holidays and he will share with Chief Thomas and Captain Bewley.

Approval of Minutes:

The general balance for May 14, 2012 minutes were incorrect.

The minutes were approved with the correction.

The minutes for April 9, 2012 will be approved at the July meeting.

Officer's Reports:

Treasurer Report:

Sophie Mitchell reported that the general fund balance was 3750.39.

Special Committee Report:

CVSS Capitol Improvements Committee:

There was no report.

Committee Reports:

Public Relations and Media:

There was no report.

Hospitality:

Bart Patton asked for baskets or gift bags. They can be brought to the alert center or talk to Bart.

Unfinished Business:

Love Your Block Grant:

Kathleen Countryman said that the deadline for applying for Love Your Block Grants was extended to June 15. She had gotten one call from a resident about a project and is waiting to hear back from them.

She thought that Woodruff Gardens had submitted a project plan for planting and trellises along the creek in the garden.

Summit Street Variance:

Kathleen and Robert Walker reported that the city had been asked for a zoning change on Summit Street last month. Because of the slope on the street a developer has asked for a variance on the length of flat driveways for five individual lots.

There was nothing on the zoning agenda for CVSS.

Nancy Sheehan asked for a drawing of how it will affect the width of the street. Kathleen will check and see how the process has progressed and get copies of the drawings.

Alert Center Reports:

Kathleen said that Officer Crace was on vacation.

Homeless Camps:

Kathleen reported that the city had put in a bid to get the cul de sac at 3rd and Schiller cleaned up.

NUSA Conference Update:

Kathleen attended the NUSA conference and got some new ideas. She will be meeting with the city board on June 21st.

There might be a new 311 app that would allow people to send photos of possible code violations.

She reported on youth study circles, which enable youth from different schools to work on projects they are concerned about in their neighborhoods. The city will provide them with the resources they need to complete the work.

Summer Cereal Drive:

The alert center is an official site to collect donated boxes of cereal.

Summer Youth Workers:

The alert center will be utilizing summer youth workers.

Announcements:

Kathleen will be checking on the cleared area under the Entergy lines as it is getting overgrown again.

Bob Hamilton brought an example of the sign for Lamar Porter that was provided through the neighborhood's donation. It will be hung above the main entrance of the field.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned.