

## Safe Community Task Force Enforcement Sub-Committee Meeting on 04/17/2010

Ralph Potter, Terry Tobin, John Mauss, Bob Lanka, Terry Mozena, Joseph Noll, Edie Huss Kuhle, Carlotta Paige, Phyllis Russell, Phil Brennan

Meeting held Saturday morning at Prescott School, with representation from Urban Strategies.

Had a recap of the 4/15/10 meeting of the Safe Community Task Force.

The crime study contracted with the University of Northern Illinois will take up to twenty weeks to complete. Urban Strategies (U/S) had hoped to have the results by July for their presentation to the council.

U/S will condense Section 8 recommendations, while several volunteers will do that for the private landlord component.

A review of our recommendations to the council revealed that numbers 1-2-6 needed some re-wording, #4 was ok, #3 was not discussed and #5 has been implemented. These are enumerated on our handout entitled 'Law Enforcement', but a quick take is as follows.

1. The 'Kick Off To Summer' program cannot practically be conducted on a regular basis due to the coordination of so many enforcement agencies, numbers of which aren't at our beck and call.
2. There will be a more strict enforcement of the noise guidelines going forward.
6. There will also be more strict enforcement of infractions regarding impeding traffic flow.
3. The average patrol officer has about six years of service and turnover is an issue. There are 8 -9 openings now and around 25% of new officers drop out of the program once they get to town, after the academy. It's difficult to attract and keep high quality officers. This will be an ongoing issue and a favorable resolution is desirable. The candidates don't have much financially invested in the training and enforcement of broken contracts is minimal. Now a candidate can go to the academy without being hired but must be sponsored by a law enforcement agency. Could consider a reimbursement plan for such hires. There are some new twists to this process, different funding sources and so on, so maybe there will be progress going forward. Though the Police Dept is somewhat under staffed, the authorized number of positions is higher than it was, so still in fairly decent shape. The Enforcement sub committee continues to support the resolution of this staffing problem.

4. Changes in police notification of landlords for calls to their property has been enacted.

At the next Task Force meeting U/S plans to address the Section 8 issue further. They'll offer a differentiation between 'unauthorized residents' and 'visitors'. U/S will also provide information on some programs that are working well, their code enforcement, rental permit process etc.

We reiterated our curfew recommendation, though not unanimously.

\*\* One final recommendation, if we may, is to initiate a standing Safe Community Commission that is appointed by the City Council, so we can stay ahead of crime issues.

Once our series of recommendations is refined, U/S will get them to our Enforcement sub committee - prior to the May 13<sup>th</sup> Task Force meeting.

We determined that this was our last scheduled meeting.