

**Safe Community Task Force
Neighborhood Engagement / Social Capital Subcommittee Meeting
Friday, April 16, 2010 – 12:00 p.m.**

Members: Jonathan Cheatam, Janice Craddieth, Gaby DeVaga, Pat Kelly, Bob Krayner, Dane Schrobiligen, Lynn Sutton, Sr. Inez Turnmeyer, Dirk Voetberg, Bob Wild, and Suzie Wright

Urban Strategies Special Meeting – April 16, 2010:

This special meeting with the Neighborhood Engagement / Social Capital Subcommittee was held from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. at the Julien Hotel. Subcommittee members available for this meeting were Jonathan Cheatam, Janice Craddieth, Pat Kelly, Bob Krayner, Dane Schrobiligen, Lynn Sutton, Dirk Voetberg and Bob Wild. Carlotta Paige representing Urban Strategies and Phyllis Russell representing the City of Dubuque conducted the session.

A primary purpose of this meeting was to engage in a dialogue between Urban Strategies and the subcommittee as what has been accomplished thus far, and to search for further direction in the process from Urban Strategies. Urban Strategies in reviewing our recommendations submitted in our February 25 letter and the further areas identified from the results of the survey responses listed in our April 8 letter felt the subcommittee is on the right path but needs to continue traveling farther on this path.

All four subcommittees are being requested to redefine their recommendations with elements in context with their project focuses. For your convenience listed below are the “Neighborhood Engagement Initial Projects to Focus on” as well as our February 25 recommendations and our April 8 significant areas identified from the survey responses. Most of the listings in the February 25 and April 8 letters would be in context with item #1 Creating a sense of belonging... and #2 Welcoming new residents..... Item #3 Providing things not already being done is non-specific and could cover a multitude of ideas. While this item could be a catch-all, it also generates “thinking outside of the box”. Through this redefining process the subcommittee has the latitude to be resourceful in developing ideas for consideration as recommendations.

The reformulated recommendations need to be resubmitted as soon as possible to allow the Task Force time for reviewing the recommendations prior to their May 13 meeting. Subsequently, the Task Force will be submitting recommendations to the City Council for their consideration and action.

- Initial Projects to Focus on:
 1. Creating a sense of belonging in the neighborhoods and bringing the neighborhoods together so community interaction is possible.
 2. Welcoming new residents into the neighborhood and letting them know expectations.
 3. Providing things not already being done.

- February 25, 2010 Letter (Recommendations)
 1. Improvement in cleaning -- streets, gutters, sidewalks and yards.
 2. Institute a Neighborhood Watch program
 3. Increased lighting especially in the middle of blocks.
 4. Changes in police presence.
 5. Landlords having more consistency in background checks and enforcing rules.

Additionally, the subcommittee recommended:

1. The entire taskforce should go through “Bridges Out of Poverty” training or something similar.
2. The police force should include community members when going through diversity training.

- April 8, 2010 Letter (Other significant areas identified from the survey).
 1. Creating a neighborhood watch.
 2. Installing street lights in the middle of the block.
 3. Reduction of excessive noise.
 4. Reducing vehicular speed.
 5. More frequent neighborhood cleanups.
 6. Property maintenance / upkeep.
 7. Elimination of racism.

Survey Demographics:

As part of the demographics analysis, Bob Kraymer will review each survey form to determine if sex, ethnicity or race, etc is indicated and forward this information to Urban Strategies prior to the Task Force meeting of May 13.

Meeting Date Change:

The second subcommittee meeting date originally scheduled with Urban Strategies for Saturday, May 15, has been **rescheduled for Friday, May 14 – time and location to be determined.**

Next Subcommittee Meeting:

The next subcommittee meeting date is **Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Mark Community Center conference room. The purpose of this meeting is to begin the process of redefining our recommendations for consideration for a safe community.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Kraymer,
Secretary

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