



MINUTES

CITY OF DUBUQUE SAFE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR SESSION

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board Room

Committee Members Present: Chairperson Amanda Elkins; Committee Members Doug Stillings, Ann Ernst, Jonathan Cheatham, Susan Stork.

Committee Members Absent: Rachel Daack, Mary Rae Bragg, Diane Callahan, Anthony Allen

Staff Members Present: Kelly Larson, Jerelyn O'Connor, Mark Dalsing, Marie Ware

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elkins at 6:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE: Staff verified that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Doug Stilling, seconded by Susan Stork to approve the minutes of March 14, 2012, as submitted. All in favor.

ACTION ITEMS

Status of Section 8 HUD Audit – David Harris

The City has not yet received the results of the HUD audit.

Draft letter to Dubuque Community School District

This will be held to the next agenda.

“I’m a DBQer” Series

Susan reported that one of the faculty members at NICC said she would use this as an assignment using the template Susan has provided. Susan has not heard back yet, but this is finals week so she is hoping to hear from her soon.

Other business

Doug reported that he spoke at a Chamber event about the work of the Safe Community Task Force and Advisory Committee work. Jonathon reported that he is working with his friend, Tim Trenkle, to do a survey of 250 random people on the street.

He provided the survey questions and indicated that anyone interested could complete the survey. It is not officially related to his work on the committee – he is doing this independently with Tim.

July 11, 2012 agenda items

- HUD Audit Status
- I'm a Dubuquer
- Update on DCSD contact

ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE:

ITEMS FROM STAFF:

Marie reported on the Safe Community Task Force recommendation relating to out of school time programming. The phrase “designed to matter to the participants” was included in the recommendation and that is difficult to measure. Marie reported that Every Child Every Promise has a committee that is an out of school time committee that has been meeting with providers of out of school time activities for the past few years. There is a tremendous number of entities part of this collaborative work. Marie provided a chart of all of the services offered, numbers being served, etc. The list is not all inclusive – just the group involved at the time provided their information. The group also started a website www.dubuqueyouth.com so that information could be located in one easily accessible location. In addition, over the past year the Dubuque Community School District and other partners received a 21st Century Learning grant for youth in middle school to provide LEAP programming. Various organizations in the community participate in offering programs as part of this grant. In the past week they had a mini-evaluation with a third party measuring the success of the program to date. These early measures are indicating that the program has been successful engaging kids and getting them interested in a variety of new opportunities. The grant is a five year grant.

Another recommendation from the task force was to look at parenting classes. Various organizations have offered parenting classes in the past but they tend to have low to no participation, or participation by families that are not necessarily in need of the services. The Getting Ahead program and the Circles program have some skills related to parenting included. Parents as Teachers is an outstanding program that provides one on one assistance in the home. If one were going to pick a program to support and expand, this would be the one. Currently, they have a waiting list of 100 that is a year or longer wait because of their limited resources. The Third Grade Reading initiative is looking at providing further support for the Parents as Teachers program because it is successful and it focuses on zero to five, and having children ready to begin school can have an impact on school success. In sum, there are a lot of programs out there and current efforts are focused on identifying gaps, making sure services are complementary rather than overlapping.

An invitation to the Town Hall meeting on Dubuque’s “Portrait of Poverty” study was provided to the committee. The event is at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday May 10 at the Colt’s Center.

Susan asked a question about a vacant building at 10th and Central. Crenna reported that the ordinance grandfathered old buildings. Crenna reported that there might be an intent to demolish it and there may also be some underground tanks that have to be dealt with; the building is secured. In two years, another assessment of buildings throughout the community would be done and re-evaluated.

Chief Dalsing reported that on Monday night, the Council updated the ordinance on vehicle mufflers. Some objective standards were added to the code in particular, because of concerns people had raised over the subjectivity as previously written.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC:

Terry Mozena, a Safe Community Task Force Member, posed a question by e-mail to Doug Stillings about how the background check process is working. Chief Dalsing indicated they received the same e-mail and have responded that when the City has problem properties with problem tenants, they address it with the landlords.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Susan and seconded by Jonathan. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Larson

Adopted