

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

ANNUAL OPEN FORUM REPORT TO COUNCIL

Held September 8, 2007

Attendance 29

POSITIVE COMMENTS:

- Thanks for having this meeting.
- Kids feel safe in the Center.
- Like the responsiveness by Police Department.
- Liked the speed monitor on Crescent Road.
- Grateful for the post office in municipal building and thank-you for supporting it.
- Greenbelt Alert System is beneficial.
- Thanks for the News Review.
- New pedestrian safety for seniors pilot workshop is in the works.

The above positive comments were made during the Annual Senior Citizens' Open Forum on September 8, 2007 as were the comments below. From the issues that were raised, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee identified three categories, Transportation, Safety, and Miscellaneous issues. These categories are listed below with the related comments and issues made at the forum listed underneath each item.

SAFETY:

1. Feeling unsafe at bus stop (Greenbriar and ERHS)
 - a. Call Non-emergency police number: 301-474-7200
 - b. Engage individual in a dialogue
 - c. Pull out a cell phone
2. Traffic from Garden Way to Southway on Ridge Road is too fast.
 - a. Police officers will keep an eye on these areas.
 - b. Police spotlight issues each week.
3. Stop signs are not being obeyed and speed problems on Ridge Road. (44 court, 14 Court)
 - a. Police officers have been seen not stopping at stop signs.
4. Safety on Spellman Overpass.

TRANSPORTATION:

1. Greenbelt Connection: only one number to call, 474-4100; How do you contact the Connection on Sunday?
 - a. If Connection is missed or does not show as expected, who do you call?
 - b. Sunday Drivers are on a rotating schedule. Public Works will address and see what can be done.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Grateful for PO in City Office, but there are some concerns:
 - a. Pre-stamped post cards are not offered here
 - b. Only one kind of stamp offered at the city PO
 - c. People often buy large quantities of stamps at any given time
 - d. Need to look into getting more supplies
2. Interest in setting up small garden plots in Greenbelt
3. Senior Nutrition door too heavy to open.

SCAC Recommendations:

1. Police Department needs to patrol Hanover Parkway and Eleanor Roosevelt HS bus stop on a regular basis, as well as Ridge Road.
2. Greenbelt Connection should get a cell phone for use on Sundays.
3. City PO supplies should be stocked more or refilled more often.
4. The door to the Senior Nutrition Program will be kept open during lunch time.

ADDENDUM

- A. Email to City Manager, Public Works, Police and Planning regarding issues raised at 2007 Open Forum

ADDENDUM A

Memorandum

TO: MICHAEL MCLAUGHLIN, CITY MANAGER

CC: CELIA CRAZE, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JIM CRAZE, CHIEF OF POLICE
KENNY HALL, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
HANK IRVING, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION

FROM: KAREN HASELEY, TR SUPERVISOR

DATE: 7/16/2020

RE: 2007 SENIOR CITIZEN ANNUAL OPEN FORUM

At this year's Annual Senior Open Forum, September 8, 2007, safety and transportation issues were once again the primary focus.

A resident felt very uncomfortable at the Eleanor Roosevelt and Hanover Parkway bus stop when she was waiting for a bus. There was one other individual in the area, appearing to wait for a bus. The senior citizen was suspicious and attempted to engage him in conversation, with no response. This suspicious individual did not get on the bus.

Ridge Road speeding issues were raised again, particularly between Gardenway and Southway. Stop signs are also not being obeyed on Ridge Road. Those attending the forum were in favor of the speed sentry and maybe moving it to these areas will help.

An issue that came up at the SCAC meeting on 9/26/07 was Lakecrest and Lakeside. Here not only is speeding a problem, but cars do NOT stop at the stop signs and they go AROUND stopped school buses.

Hopefully the above areas can be checked more regularly by police officers.

Another area of concern is that citizens have no way to contact the Greenbelt Connection on Sundays. This becomes a problem if the citizen needs to cancel the ride, or if they were not picked up. It is suggested that having a cell phone for the Sunday drivers to use would be a great benefit to the Sunday riders.

Any feedback on these issues would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.