

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The meeting began at 7:31 p.m.

Members Present were: Kevin Hammett, Dea Zugby, Jackie Carrington, Sherry Burks, Jamie Krauk, Janet Jacobs Parker, Rick Ransom, Dan Hamlin, Emmett Jordan, Council Liaison and David Moran, Staff Liaison.

Approval of Minutes – 5/24/10

Dan moved approval of these minutes as presented. Sherry seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Council Referral – Empirian Village – Joint Report

David provided an update on conditions at Franklin Park (formerly called Empirian Village). CRAB discussed the referral and the previous joint meetings with the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC).

Kevin stated that CRAB & PSAC have different perspectives and that a report to Council needed to reflect that. Dea described a conversation she had with a resident about a water problem. Dan commented that high turnover creates challenges building a sense of community there.

Jamie believed there were both short and long-term issues that needed to be addressed. Jackie stated that more social & human services were needed in the community. Dan stressed the need for management and the City to make Franklin Park a desirable place to live in the long-term.

Jackie wondered if Franklin Park resident knew what City services were available to them. Emmet mentioned the transportation challenges that some residents have. Rick noted that the problem of getting residents involved in their community was not unique to Franklin Park.

David agreed to try and draft a report based on CRAB's discussion.

Council Referral – Commemoration of September 11 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Dan indicated that GILA and the American Legion had conducted one or two anniversary programs right after 9/11. He also noted that Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA) and Pleasant Touch had partnered to offer a massage therapy program.

Janet thought an activity with the Legion was a good idea. Dan agreed, but noted these programs tended to have a military focus. He liked the idea of a day of service as a constructive activity. He offered to suggest this to the GILA.

Emmett noted that the Council was looking for an appropriate way to recognize this anniversary. Kevin suggested a community meeting/catharsis opportunity, a special film showing and/or a

concert. Jackie suggested a moment of silence. Dan suggested an opportunity for oral histories or a large poster to record “where were you when the plane hit” memories.

Dea relayed her own experience of watching the plane hit the Pentagon from her nearby office and suggested providing a forum for people to share their own stories. Kevin indicated the Community Pledge should be included in any event/activity. It was suggested that stories/memories could be collect during the Labor Day Festival.

CRAB directed that these suggestions be transmitted in a report to the City Council.

#### Council Referral – Smoking Prohibition at Roosevelt Center

Jamie stated that smoking while annoying to non-smokers is a tough issue to address. Dan noted as an ex-smoker he is really bothered by smoke, but recognizes the need for smokers to have a place where they can do so and was less inclined to ban smoking throughout Roosevelt Center. Sherry indicated as a smoker she always tries to abide by any rules and be respectful to non-smokers. Jackie and Kevin suggested a designated area be established. Emmet noted that many of the step club members smoke in an area outside of their building. Rick indicated he was not a smoker, but generally favored smoker’s rights. Dan mentioned the addictive nature of smoking.

Kevin suggested prohibiting smoking in the rectangular area where the tables and benches are located, but designating another area where smoking would be allowed.

After further discussion, CRAB decided that a follow-up meeting was needed to finalize their response on this referral.

#### Nomination & Election of Chair & Vice-Chair

Kevin announced his intent to resign as Chair. CRAB agreed to discuss this matter in more detail at their next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:27 p.m.

Prepared by David E. Moran, Staff Liaison