



## NHNC Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2013, Willard Elementary School

There was a brief pre-meeting discussion of the Lincoln St. shooting.

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. by Jeff Zabinski

Guests: Melissa Nystrom – Ombudsman Office

### Introductions

April minutes were approved. City wants meeting agendas and minutes sent to a different e-mail address now. Jeff will start sending Dan the agendas electronically.

### Ombudsman Update:

The 2012 report is out and available on the web site. Has 37 pages and lots of statistics - calls, incidents, etc. There were 104,000 contacts and 244 citations (22 from within the dept. itself). Other files such as complaints and recommendations are there too. Complaints and compliments can be filed on-line.

Office has moved to City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> floor now. Prop. 1 passed in Feb., making the office part of the city charter. Dept. of Justice is now performing an audit. They will submit a summary letter when finished.

Recommendations have been made for school officers and public record response improvements. Medical Examiner inquests have been recommended. Creating an investigator position in the prosecutor's office has been proposed.

Q: what happened with the car thief shooting of several weeks ago? The issue seems to have gone completely quiet. A: unknown, but can try to find out who to contact and send the information to Jeff. There were no officer complaints that she knows of.

Q: are you seeing any evidence that progress is being made based on the reports you see? A: yes. There is a definite shift of the people coming through the office as compared to others such as Internal Affairs. Two COPS shops have representatives now. She has started going to Crosswalk on a schedule.

Q: when will investigation authority kick in? A: two members of the City Council have drafted a proposal. It requires some budget changes and probably Police Guild negotiation. A personal observation was made by an attendee about their experience

dealing with Internal Affairs, it seeming like a black hole, and feeling like they were being treated like a criminal.

Body camera testing has started. They do audio too. Encouragement was given to increase sensitivity training for dealing with special needs and vulnerable populations. A: 40 hour CIT training is now mandatory.

Bookmarks with the web page address were passed out.

#### Community Assembly:

Meeting summary notes were passed around. Red light cameras are under review. The decision whether to renew the contract is due by the end of the year. If renewed, where the funds will go will also be discussed.

CA retreat was cancelled. CA/Council joint meeting is the 29<sup>th</sup>, probably at West Central, 3:30 – 5.

Social media training will be June 24<sup>th</sup> at TINCANN.

A question was asked about Friday update messages. Not many receive them. Improving communications is why the question was asked. Send any suggestions to Sandy.

Condensed planning process is not receiving a lot of responses. Jeff reported he has not received anything new about it recently. Sandy will check further.

Housing & Human Services are investigating innovative methods on how funds are getting used around the country. Details to come.

Dan asked for additional details about the audio/video item in Sandy's notes. Sandy reported there were strong feelings about the issue but no specifics yet.

#### Clean-Up:

Final results are not ready yet. Dump pass and appliance sign up numbers look like they are on par with last spring's event numbers. Event seems to have come off well. Traffic flow was good. City reported only 2 of the appliances were actually out on the curb. They were concerned that scrap metal scroungers were picking them up instead.

Nancy McLaughlin and her husband are now covering the Garland Business District Fair dumpster. There are now 2 events – the fair in July and the block party in August. NHNC may be able to cover the 2<sup>nd</sup> event dumpster.

#### COPS Proposal:

Mike and Sandy have attended all the meetings. An officer contacted them yesterday as well. There may be a bond issue proposed next fall. There has been some discussion of area shop consolidations. Police precincts have been proposed now too.

#### Traffic Calming:

Radar sign is up and running on Garland. It will be moved to Madison for east-bound coverage next. Exact schedule isn't known. A permanent sign has been proposed.

Pedestrian Count Form was shown around. Mike asked the Garland/Stephens crossing guards for pedestrian counts. There were 23 during his shift. Mike did a lunch hour count at the Rocket and counted 42, with roughly ½ in each direction.

Emphasis patrols were suggested for crossing guard areas during those hours.

There are no curb cuts at Stephens and Garland. It is in the CD area. Buzz will look into proposing them. Getting them done when Garland is re-paved may also be possible.

#### Community Development:

Awaiting word on sidewalks for 2 locations – Cora and Post. Scheduling a sidewalk survey during June was suggested. CD area was split into pieces for volunteers. Dan will try to copy the city's map of the area for better tracking. Suggestion was made to put together a master list what to put on the map – missing sidewalks, bad curbs, no handicapped corner cuts, tree push-ups, etc. were suggested. End of July was suggested as the deadline.

New Courtland sidewalk is getting a LOT of use, and of multiple types – workout runs, strolls, strollers, etc. The hydro-seeding of the hill above it didn't take.

#### Other Business:

Fund raiser had good weather – just some wind. Turnout was decent but not frantic. Donations were good. Allocation was to COPS.

Safe deposit box was suggested lieu of a bank account.

Hot dog feed was proposed for recruitment.

Adjournment: 8:21 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 13, 2013, 6:30 p.m., Willard Elementary

Minutes submitted by Daniel Fears, NHNC Secretary. Corrections and additions welcome.

NHNC Meeting Attendees – May 9, 2013

Jeff Zabinski – Chair

Mike Flahaven – Officer at Large

Daniel Fears – Secretary/Treasurer

Sandy Gill

Buzz Bellessa

Teresa VanDyke

Neslihan Firestone

Melissa Nystrom – Police Ombudsman Office