

DeBary Public Safety Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 20, 2008
6:30 PM
Florence K. Little Town Hall
12 Colomba Road

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chair Bob Garcia called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Chair Bob Garcia, Gene Leighton, Vice-Chair Josephine Opisso (late) Marlee Grein and David Asson

Others Present: Assistant City Manager Anthony Gonzalez and Captain Alan Osowski

III. Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting held April 15, 2008

Ms. Grein moved to approve the minutes, and Mr. Asson seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Old Business

- Update on West Volusia Community Traffic Safety Team

Chair Garcia informed the Committee that because there were not enough people present, it was a very short meeting. He said the Team briefly discussed the Wolf Pack Program, in which different law enforcement agencies get together to address various problems.

Chair Garcia discussed the law enforcement reports and noted the increase in burglaries.

Mr. Leighton asked Captain Osowski if the burglaries are limited to particular areas. Captain Osowski answered that they are spread out, with the majority being vehicle break-ins. He explained the coding on the report that identifies what type of burglary occurred. He added that the majority of car burglaries occur due to unlocked vehicles.

Mr. Leighton asked if the sheriff's office checks the pawnshops. Captain Osowski responded that their office is tied into Seminole, Orange, Osceola and Volusia counties via computer to check the pawnshops.

- Address Stenciling Project

Chair Garcia stated that the six-inch numbers are much easier to see than the three-inch numbers. Ms. Opisso added that the numbers would be even more visible with the glass beads sprinkled in the paint. Chair Garcia suggested starting in the fall when it is cooler. Mr. Leighton said there

are about 9,000 households in the city, and it would take considerable time to complete the project.

There was consensus from the Committee members to purchase the glass beads at \$3 per pound and to paint the numbers in front of their own houses first.

Mr. Leighton said they would need street brooms or a blower. Mr. Gonzalez said he would handle it.

Mr. Asson made a motion for Mr. Williamson to move forward with the purchase of glass beads. Ms. Opisso seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Opisso asked Chair Garcia if the Council had all the information and recommendations discussed by the Committee. Chair Garcia answered that they did, but there was not enough time at the last Council meeting for him to make his Committee report. Ms. Opisso voiced concern that their recommendations are not making it to the Council floor because the committee reports are always near the end of the agenda.

Ms. Opisso voiced frustration regarding the traffic light at Summerhaven and Enterprise. Mr. Gonzalez stated that Mr. Kerr, with Orange City, said the intersection does not warrant a light at this point.

V. New Business

Ms. Opisso said she would like to receive feedback from the Council. She suggested that they do not meet every month if their recommendations are not being sent to Council, and maybe quarterly meetings would be appropriate. She made a motion to meet quarterly, with the next meeting to be held in August. Mr. Leighton seconded the motion. Chair Garcia stated that they would need to amend the by-laws to change to quarterly meetings on a regular bases. Ms. Opisso amended her motion for the next meeting to be held in August. Mr. Leighton seconded and noted that he would be out of town in August. The motion passed 4-1, with Ms. Grein dissenting.

VI. Public Participation

Brian Gawne, 224 Dirksen Drive, informed the Committee of a safety concern he has regarding the standing water near his home and the proliferation of mosquitoes. Mr. Gonzalez stated that he would address the problem and speak with Volusia County about the ditch. Mr. Leighton moved to forward the issue to staff, and Ms. Grein seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ty Harris, attorney for the DeBary Downs developer, explained the quarter horse racetrack and poker room project to the Committee. Mr. Harris stated that traffic would not be affected during the rush hour times in the morning and afternoon due to the elimination of the residential component of the previously approved development agreement for the DeBary Town Center. He also explained the layout of the property.

Ms. Opisso asked Mr. Harris to explain the racetrack and the events that the applicant has planned for the property. Mr. Harris stated that according to statistics, the typical patron of a

poker room has a median age of 47, 57% are college educated, less than 1 in 10 play poker to win money, and most people play poker for the entertainment value.

Michael Goldstein, the applicant for the project, explained that the State allows the card room to be open twelve hours per day, seven days per week, but it would be up to the City to determine the hours of operation. He added horses would not be stored on the property.

Mr. Leighton asked about the gas line and fiber optic line. Mr. Harris answered that the gas line would have to be moved. Mr. Leighton asked if they have an idea of the traffic that would be generated. Mr. Harris answered that they have not completed the traffic study, but they would have to comply with any required road improvements to maintain the mandatory level of service.

Chair Garcia asked Mr. Harris questions regarding Dirksen Drive, sidewalks, and fire hydrants. He thanked Mr. Harris for taking the time to address the Committee. Mr. Harris distributed information booklets on the project to the Committee.

VII. Adjournment

Mr. Leighton moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Grein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**APPROVED September 16, 2008
CITY OF DeBARY
Public Safety Advisory Committee**

Bob Garcia, Chair