SWNA Monthly Meeting

April 22, 2014

7:05pm

* Pledge of Allegiance
* Minutes approved
* Agenda approved
* Treasurer's report approved; Osage balance: $94.03 SWNA balance: $458.03
* Community policing
  + Robin Douty, 13 Beat
  + Auto thefts are down
  + Businesses broken into off Harry, between Orient and Meridian; trailer, jet skis stolen
  + Crime rates are down
  + Patrol West reports home burglaries; front doors kicked in; using pillow cases to haul away loot; 2 to 3 suspects being considered; special assignments watching them
  + 2 - 3 officers will be available to help with Neighborhood Clean-up; will get the info to Officer Douty (Rdouty@wichita.gov)
  + Security systems company scamming residents; asking door-to-door salespeople of security systems for credentials; scams are feeding off the recent rash of burglaries
  + Gunshots heard around the Seneca & 31st area; Officer Douty unaware of any activity as it's out of her area
  + A/C theft noticed to be on the rise whenever people start turning on their A/C for the summer
* Case Bell, Community Liaison
  + District Advisory Board 3: has one opening; meets first Wednesday of each month
  + City Planning staff holding meetings: One meeting left, Monday next week; explaining how the City is facing a $9B funding deficit to meet the needs of the City.
  + District 4 breakfasts: Starting to have those again in June; looking for a facility
* Captain Jose Salcido: Guest Speaker
  + Unable to attend due to illness; planning on attending next month's meeting
  + Big on community policing
  + Willing to take input on replacing Officer Cornwell
  + Contact info on agenda (phone number and email)
  + Police reporting available on SWNA website; 3 reports have been made; SWNA receives a carbon copy; can add pictures; report goes to Captain Salcido and he assigns to a community policing officer & they're supposed to report any outcomes to SWNA at our monthly meetings.
* By-laws
  + Brandon made a motion to amend, Chris seconded the motion
    - Brandon moved that we add a section under Article 4, Section D to designate an emeritus position; the position would include any former board members and that they would be involved but maybe not necessarily have a vote; would have to held a board member position in the past and continue to lend their voices of experience. The person would have to make a motion to add this person as emeritus position and a vote would have to take place. Chris brought up that this is already included in the by-laws as it applies to immediate past presidents. Chris seconded Brandon's motion. The motion passed with none opposed.
  + Brandon made a motion to discuss the dues.
    - Josh read aloud proposed Article 5 Dues
    - The question arises "Should we start charging dues?" or "Should we continue with the donations as we've done in the past?"
    - The benefits of going to dues would be if "someone were to stack the room." The drawback is if people haven't paid their dues, they lose their right to vote.
    - Brandon brought up how Section D allows people to "opt out" and suggested maybe considering a more "opt in" philosophy.
    - Josh stated that he didn't like the idea of leaving anyone out just because they didn't have the money to pay their dues.
    - Ron suggested possibly tabling Article 5 until we had more residents present. Brandon stated he was okay with that idea.
    - Josh stated that we haven't discussed any specific dollar amounts.
    - Ron made the motion to table Article 5 until some future time when additional discussions could be held about it. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed.
  + Josh read aloud Article 7 and asked Ron to explain the difference between plurality and majority. Plurality is the most votes, while majority is 50% +1.
  + Josh asked whether we should hold the elections effective immediately or wait until January, 2015.
    - Brandon suggested that we hold off until January, 2015 so that no one feels like they've had the elections sprung on them.
    - Two year terms were suggested as a way of making sure officers had a way learning their roles.
    - Ron made the motion that elections be held in January, 2015 and the current officers stay in their elected positions until them. Marjorie seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed.
  + Ron asked that Article 9 be clarified. The audit committee should be formed in January (at the same time as the nominating committee). Ron made the motion, Marjorie seconded and the motion passed unopposed.
  + Josh asked for any other discussed on the by-laws. With none, Brandon moved that the by-laws be accepted with Article 5 tabled and the amendments included. Ron seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion passed.
* Garage Sale:
  + SWNA has not received adequate interest so Robert Perez and Gators Football is going to swap dates with SWNA.
    - Gator Football: May 3rd
    - SWNA: June 14th
* Movie Night:
  + Saturday, April 26th @ 7pm
  + Saving Mr. Banks
  + About 20 people turned out last month
* Neighborhood Clean-up:
  + June 28th, 8am - Noon
  + Planning meeting on Thursday, April 24th
  + Volunteer hours forms
  + How do we feel about the idea of using individuals on work-release? Josh made the motion that we utilize individuals on work-release (with a secure volunteer form). Ron seconded the motion and with none opposed, the motion passed.
* Events are all on the SWNA calendar on the website
  + Aerobics
  + 3-on-3 basketball on May 10th
  + Ad in City of Wichita Parks and Recreation magazine
* Marjorie asked about who to contact about scheduling use of the park and Josh told her to contact Karen Holmes.
* Brandon Whipple: State legislature update
  + school funding bill: Senate included a lot of policy and the House's version was relatively clean; the bill went to committee and the version that came out passed by 1 vote; teachers of three years lost due-process unless your union covers it under their CBA; loss of due-process will affect smaller areas that don't have unions;
  + returns to Topeka next week for the veto session of about 3 days;
  + bill introduced to give legislators raises: will not make it out of committee; current salary $14,000.00 per year, which is virtually a volunteer job, not meant to be full-time; also receives living allowance, bringing them up to $20,000.00.
  + Does the governor want to take over Medicare for the State of Kansas? If the current bill had passed, Kansas would be removed from Obamacare and we would enter a compact with 9 other states. That bill failed to pass.
  + Josh asked about the testing schedule for schools. Also, about PTOs/PTAs not being allowed to sell unhealthy foods at after school events.
  + South Sedgwick County Democrats ham and bean feed this Saturday at 5 - 7pm.
  + Josh suggested that we fill the co-vice president position if anyone's interested. Chris suggested that Brandon move into the full vice-president position. Terry seconded the motion and with no discussion and none opposed, the motion passed.
* Jeff Blubaugh: City update
  + Community engagement is still a problem. Hoping that they can tag onto SWNA meetings.
  + Good news about the tanker being stationed at McConnell.
  + Industrial corridor, including enhancements to West street from Kellogg to McArthur, Meridian from Pawnee to Kellogg.
  + Will sales tax go on ballot?
  + Street name signs missing in the area
  + Josh congratulated Jeff on being elected/appointed vice-mayor
  + Seventh Day Adventist looking for a community project to work on.
    - Will they be holding a carnival? Unknown
  + Doug Cuppers with City Parks and Recs is moving to OKC.
* James Clendinin: City update
  + DAB 4 has one vacancy
  + If your water bill is going up without changing your usage or habits, you need to have the City come check for leaks. There is a base rate that you can't drop below. If you have a leak it depends on which side of the meter the leak is on to determine whose responsibility it is to fix.
  + ACT ICT presentation: Input from the community as to what they care about:
    - Water for the future: 50 - 60%
    - 3 years away from not having a water source
    - Where? Financing? El Dorado Lake?
  + City residents will get the chance to vote on how this will be financed
  + Airport name change
    - Cost will be minimal
    - Why does it matter? Old, out-dated and will be absorbed into construction costs. It will be a rebranding and show of strength for the City.
    - Private dollars will end up paying for a lot of the costs via fund-raising.
    - Name change will not actually take effect for about a year, about the same time as they open the new terminal.
  + Chris brought up how the City's public transportation (para-transit) for handicapped individuals is totally inefficient, i.e, pickup and drop-off times are too early/late.
    - City is looking into making huge changes in public transportation.
  + Baseball teams are not supposed to be using fields at Osage Park because there has been a problem with broken windows in surrounding houses and/or cars.
* Next meeting on May 27th.
* Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm