SWNA Monthly Meeting

July 22, 2014

7:02pm

* Pledge of Allegiance
* June/July Agenda approved; Martha made the motion; Brandon seconded
* April Minutes approved; posted on website; Brandon motioned, Martha seconded
* June Treasurer's report: Osage balance: $ SWNA balance: $
  + Chris Hoppman wasn't able to attend so the treasurer's report was unavailable
* Discussion of Neighborhood Cleanup:
  + Officer Douty asked about the number of skids (dumpsters) were filled.
  + All locations were a success.
* Community Policing:
  + Officer Arroyo:
    - Open positions will not be filled for an extended period of time....first of 2015??; some community policing officers may be pulled back into patrol;
    - Influx of motorcycle thefts in the area and burglaries in the 42nd & 45th Streets & Seneca area; many are due to unlocked or doors being pryed open; times of thefts vary throughout the day.
    - Josh asked if wasn't even more important to have a community policing presence during this spike in crime? Officer Arroyo said that's true, that the public serves as their eyes and ears; he will be getting out an informational flyer to get out into the neighborhoods. Officer Arroyo shared a map with Josh as to where the recent thefts/burglaries have occurred and said that any help SWNA could provide in getting the word out is much appreciated. It's a large area to cover on foot. Also, talked about how there's been a recent rash of retirements and a delay in getting in new officers, causing a staffing problem....inadequate supply of applicants(?)
    - Officer Douty: 13 and 17 Beats have also seen an increase in thefts; trailers being stolen; using a "bait trailer" that has a GPS fixed to it....hoping it will be stolen so that it can be tracked & find out who's stealing the trailers. A recent rise is auto thefts, likely due to people leaving their keys in cars. Everything else seems to be running about normal.
    - Lenn asked about lose dogs running the neighborhoods. Officers instructed him to contact Animal Control at 350-3360 or 268-8473.
* Grace Med will present before the City of Wichita on August 5th a proposal to build a medical center directly to the south of West High School. The proposal will also have to go before DAB.
* August 2: Convoy of Hope; last year SWNA had a booth Josh helped run; last year 5000-10000 people showed up and the City panicked and shut them down; Convoy of Hope is trying to work with the City better this year to set it up better; contact volunteerkansas.com if you're interested in volunteering; Josh had flyers to give out; there are lots of different ways to volunteer
* Traveling Vietnam Memorial will be in El Dorado, KS from September 4th through the 7th. A member of SWNA provided a flyer for the event and it will be posted on our website.
* Computer classes are up and running. Currently on their 5th week but the classes can be adjusted to suit your needs. Classes start at 7pm on Wednesdays and additional classes can be added if need be.
* Osage Rec Center hours are filling up fast. Almost every evening of the week is filled....and weekends too!! Basketball teams, computers, self-defense classes, Quartermania, Christmas in July, movie nights. All events are posted on southwichita.com calendar. There's also a form that can be filled out with suggestions of other events.
* 911 Dispatch was supposed to be here last month but we cancelled. She was supposed to be here this evening but did not show up.
* Friends of Watson Park was also supposed to show up to present. Not present.
* City of Wichita: Presented by Case Bell
  + Neighborhood meetings for sales tax input are over
  + Animal control: wanting feedback.
  + District IV: Breakfasts have started up again. Looking to start the same for District III
  + Clapp Golf Course: sale of land may be coming to make needed improvements; community meetings in the future;
  + Filling the Gap: Starts July 28th (after the school program ends) and ends on August 8th (before school program starts); Partners for Wichita runs the program to feed those kids in need; Case will provide Josh with a contact number for this program
  + South Meridian drainage project: Josh said that it was doing its job the last time we had a major rain storm. Issues remain about the gravel streets in the area that were to be paved. Josh was told that the construction company ran out of funds to finish this part of the job. City Mgr. was to get back with Josh about this issue.
  + Call W-I-C-H-I-T-A if you have issues with the City......cars in the yard, rusty sheds, trash in the yard. Case suggested we call him instead of going directly to OIC and then that way he can track the needs and requests.
* State of Kansas: Presented by Brandon Whipple
  + Out of session right now
  + Campaigning right now; illegal to put literature in mailbox without it being mailed. No soliciting signs typically do not apply to political campaigns. If you don't want campaign workers visiting with you put up a no trespassing sign.
  + Would like to have a public forum next month, the same evening as our SWNA meeting, one hour earlier, to discuss the state of public education.
  + Josh said we'll have a candidate's forum before the general election, so probably in October.
  + Early voting begins next Monday for the primaries at the Union Hall in our area.
* Next meeting is on August 26th.
* Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.