

FGCAC

Meeting Tuesday, February 3, 2009

ATTENDANCE:	REPRESENTING
Bishop Ryan Warner	Councilmember Fielkow
Austin Miller	Fair Grounds Race Course
Carlyn Goodwin-Ducre	Mayor Nagin's Office
Linda Landesberg	Councilmember Carter
Tommy Lewis	Councilmember Midura
Enrico Sterling	Councilmember Midura
Sandra Salmen	Fair Grounds Race Course
Chief Jimmy Scott	NOPD/Fair Grounds Race Course
Sherry Watters	Councilmember Midura
Major Greg Elder	Supt. Warren Riley

Meeting called to order 4:10 pm by Bishop Warner

Bishop Warner welcomed everyone and hoped that they have had a great start to the New Year. He said that the Grand Opening event was a blast and was sorry to all who could not come.

Introductions:

Major Greg Elder the Third District Commander was introduced to be the new representative for Superintendent Warren Riley. His phone number is 504-258-4700 and his e-mail is gelder@cityofno.com

Old Business:

The opening of the Race Track has gone very smoothly. Austin Miller informed the group about the herpes out break which happened last December and has been cleared. Thanks to the racing operations staff and veterinarian community working together to adhere to our horse handling policy.

Sherry Watters asked about the handle on track was it up or down?

Austin Miller responded Churchill Downs Incorporated is a publicly held company and they do not release that information. However, we are doing better than the national average in terms of the downward trend in racing.

Bishop Warner asked about the Gretna OTB?

Austin Miller responded Gretna is doing fine..

New Business:

Deputy Chief Scott prepared and handed out a report on neighborhood crime and crime trends in all of the New Orleans area. Chief Scott was very thorough in his presentation and all members received copies of the report.

Deputy Chief Scott informed the group that the Fair Grounds budget for paying the patrol officers is in excess of \$50,000.00 per month.

Sherry Watters asked about the purse snatching on Trafalgar on January 10th.

Major Elder responded with the details and no one has come forth to identify the automobile other than the color. They are not sure if the female who assisted the lady was a part of the robbery. No other crime like this one has occurred in the Third District. They are working closely with the son and husband of the victim.

Bishop Warner commended the Chief stating safety is a key.

Sandra Salmen spoke about the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival which will take place on the last weekend in April and the first Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in May. This will be the 40th year of the event.

Sherry Watters asked what time will the Casino open during the Jazz Festival.

Austin Miller responded we would probably open at 6:30 pm on those days and closes at our regular time. The later opening is being anticipated due to operational challenges presented by the Jazz Festival.

Linda Landesberg asked what are the hours of the slots.

Austin Miller

Hours of the Slots

9 am – 12 midnight

10 am – 12 midnight

Sherry Watters asked about having an item put on the agenda?

Bishop Warner has asked that he be notified 30 days in advance of the meeting.

Sherry Watters asked about having Trafalgar Street posted as a no truck route.

Enrico Sterling stated you can not accomplish what Sherry is asking for. Trucks may not use the street as a pass through, but you can not stop them if they are going to a destination.

Linda Landesberg asked about getting the patrol cars new commercial grade cell phones?

Austin Miller will have our purchasing agent check with the phone carrier about the availability of this type of phone.

Linda Landesberg inquired about getting updates on the daily patrol car mileage.

Deputy Chief Scott mentioned that he would be happy to provide periodic updates but that the daily figures could easily be misinterpreted so would prefer not to report that way.

Austin Miller mentioned it is important to monitor overall mileage as there are some concerns as to whether or not the patrol cars will last 4 years until the next replacement cycle.

Racing:

Austin Miller made the Citizens Advisory Committee aware for the last 3 Fridays we race we will be changing our post time to around 2:50 pm which

will mean the last race should run at 7:10 pm. Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 8th. Those Friday dates are March 13, 20 and 27th.

Bishop Warner informed everyone our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12th at 4:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was presented by Linda Landesberg and seconded by Tommy Lewis.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 pm.