



FGCAC

Meeting Tuesday, November 10, 2009

ATTENDANCE:	REPRESENTING
Major Greg Elder	Superintendent Warren Riley
Linda Landesberg	Councilmember Carter
Tommy Lewis	Councilmember Midura
Austin Miller	Fair Grounds Race Course
Jim Mulvihill	Fair Grounds Race Course
Sandra Salmen	Fair Grounds Race Course
Rocky Seydel	Councilmember Midura
Chief James Scott	NOPD/Fair Grounds Race Course
Enrico Sterling	Councilmember Midura
Bishop Ryan Warner	Councilmember Fielkow
Sherry Watters	Councilmember Midura

Meeting called to order 4:06pm by Bishop Warner

Introductions of new members: Jim Mulvihill was introduced by Bishop Warner and asked to give an overview of his job at the Fair Grounds.

Jim Mulvihill: his position at the Fair Grounds is Pari-Mutuel Marketing and Communications Manager. He is from Algiers and recently worked for NOMA in Public Relations. His first job in racing was at Lone Star Park in between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Bishop Warner: Welcomed him to the group.

Old Business:

Austin Miller spoke about the opening day being November 6th because of the Breeders' Cup World Championship, which is like the Super Bowl of horse racing. The decision to begin earlier also deals with the fact that we can not extend our meet because of the Fair Grounds commitment to the Jazz Festival.

New Business:

Austin Miller informed the committee on November 14 the Fair Grounds Race Course and Slots will celebrate the 1 year anniversary of the permanent Slots Facility.

Austin Miller asked the committee about their ideas in which to reach our neighbors and have them come to the Fair Grounds. We want to continue to build good will and foster a strong relationship.

Linda Landesberg and Sherry Watters both spoke about Neighborhood Appreciation Day, which had taken place in 2007. They both spoke about the day and how their members asked about the Fair Grounds hosting another Neighborhood Appreciation Day.

Discussion followed regarding how to reach all of the members of their group.

Sherry Watters said she does an e-mail blast and has around 200 on her e-mail and the Desaix Neighborhood Association contains more than 500 house holds. Block captains are also very helpful in getting information to the Association.

Rocky Seydel was able to make a phone call to find out their association has 496 signed up for e-mails. Also it was suggested to put flyers in community areas and produce a mailing list.

Neighborhood Up Date:

Chief Scott gave an up to date hand out on crime in the area that is patrolled by the Fair Grounds Patrol over the last 60 days and he was very happy to report there was only one armed robbery and they caught the suspect. The group congratulated the neighborhood patrol on their excellent result.

Major Elder reported the Voodoo Festival was very successful in the terms of no crimes were committed during the 3 day festival.

Sherry Watters brought up the difficulty of 18 wheelers parking along Trafalgar Street and how it upsets the neighbors when the drivers sleep in their trucks.

Enrico Sterling suggested that the Fair Grounds Patrol officers be called and have them speak to the drivers.

Austin Miller explained we have been in contact with the man who runs the feed store and he related to Austin that he is always notifying the drivers to use only the Gentilly 18 wheeler gate. What happens is the trucking companies run relay drivers and when they are new or sub out the jobs; the new drivers do not always receive the instructions.

Review of the Provisos:

Enrico Sterling and the Fair Grounds provided all members copies of the old and then the most recent provisos signed by the council on July 28, 2005.

Linda Landsberg asked when we got to number 12 what happens if a car breaks down.

Enrico Sterling had asked the legal department of the City Attorney to the Clerk of Council to please give an interpretation of this proviso. He noted that during a quick conversation with a City Attorney it seemed that the intent was for the City of New Orleans to be responsible.

Chief Scott informed us in a regular detail if a car breaks down the officer then uses his regular car. Since the Fair Grounds cars have been in action they have had over 10 break jobs because of the stop and go driving in the 1 ½ mile radius they patrol. The cost of these two cars was over \$55,000.00.

Major Elder stated they had just bought a new car and the cost was \$26,400.00 plus miscellaneous computer equipment.

Bishop Warner wished every one a Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year.

Linda Landsberg thanked the Fair Grounds for their donations and for helping make the trick or treating in the neighborhood a big success.

Sherry Watters thanked the Fair Grounds for their donations regarding the beautification efforts for the Desaix and Langestrom Hughes signage.

Bishop Warner reminded everyone the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 4:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was presented by Rocky Seydel and seconded by Tommy Lewis.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm