



FGCAC
Meeting Tuesday, March 2, 2010

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

Meeting called to order 4:05pm by Bishop Warner

Introductions of new members: No new members were introduced.

Bishop Warner: Wished everyone a Happy New Year.
Thanked our police officers for attending
Said that Austin Miller would not be with us for he had to travel on company business.

Old Business:

Fair Grounds had hosted a Neighborhood appreciation day on Sunday, January 17, 2010. The invitation was sent to everyone in Zip Code 70119 and it was not as good a turn out as in years past. It was a very cold Sunday.

Sherry Watters presented the trophy in the race named for the DeSaix Neighborhood Association to the winning owner of the race.

Linda Landesberg and Rocky Seydel both remarked that they did not remember seeing the mailer.

Neighborhood Update:

Chief Jimmy Scott gave a hand out that was run from November 14 thru February 15 which is very thorough on any activity in the neighborhood.

Major Greg Elder gave a hand out concerning the third district activity for Zone L the area surrounding the track.

New Business:

Mystery Street Gate Opening

A discussion took place with the committee about the opening and closing times of the Mystery Street Gate.

Sandra Salmen pointed out during the course of the race meet we have 675 people living on the backside of the races track. The Mystery Street gate allows licensed personnel who work on the back stretch to walk 2 blocks to buy groceries from either Conseco or Terranovas markets.

The gate is closed to vehicular traffic after the conclusion of racing and a small gap in the fence is left open to allow the backstretch personnel access with out having to crawl under the fence in order to leave the property to purchase groceries.

Linda Landesberg provided three different interpretations on the opening and closing of the Mystery Street gate and said she has gotten e-mail complaints from people who live on Maurepas.

It was the Committee's interpretation that the proviso's covered the gates on Fortin Street, and did not pertain to the Mystery Street Gate. Therefore the Ordinances covered the hours that the Mystery Street Gate can be open.

Eric Halstrom suggested that over the summer the Fair Grounds looks at a solution with just one month of racing left for this season.

Race Track Lighting:

Sandra Salmen handed out detail information concerning the lights and the results of readings taken from around the track with the infield lights on and the infield lights off. The type of meter used and what the effects of lighting can mean in the area.

Sherry Watters pointed out that a complaint had come from across DeSaix Blvd. concerning the lights.

Sandra Salmen: The light poles have not been heightened and they are in third generation usage.

Fred Shenck of Robins Electric who had installed the lighting system under the Roussel ownership said there has been a 25% reduction in the infield lighting since the originals have been installed.

Chief Scott said that weather conditions can play a part in lighting being brighter on a clear night vs. a cloudy night. He also brought up the daylight factor and in the mornings now it is daylight sooner.

Safety Announcements:

Sandra Salmen: Announcements are made at 6:00 am to tell the trainers the track is open. After that the only time announcements are to be made is for safety reasons when a horse has gotten loose on the track and could cause an accident.

Eric Halstrom: Told the group no new speakers had been added on the backstretch , but there had been some that need to be readjusted.

Linda Landsberg asked that proviso number #12 be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting, concerning the Fair Grounds Enhanced Patrol.

Bishop Warner informed everyone our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11th at 4:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was presented by Rocky Seidel and seconded by Linda Landesberg.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11 at 4:00 pm

Meeting adjourned 5:15 pm.