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Community Facilities & Services
Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2007
Time: 6:00p.m.
Location: Lange Middle School

Facilitator: Louesa Runge Fine
Present: Susan Marshall-Roberts, Ibrahim Khaleel, Steve Sheltmire, Ken Schneeberger
Absent: Melissa Carr, Dick Potter

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 5, 2007, 7:00p.m., Daniel Boone Regional Library - Columbia

I. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

The May 1, 2007, minutes were distributed for review. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Steve Sheltmire. The motion was seconded by Susan Marshall-Roberts, and the minutes were approved.

II. Key Meeting Discussion Topics

- Review of our current goals and strategies continued from the last meeting, with discussion of the Library sub-topic:
 - Steve suggested seeing demographics of who's using the library, why they use the branch they do, and what percentage of the Columbia's population use the library would be helpful in determining our strategies and action plans.
 - Ken distributed a handout of thoughts and suggestions for the library. There were questions and discussion.
 - Steve suggested considering changing the third strategy, "...and promote public awareness of the library value." (In order to get voter support for satellites).
 - It was suggested that the second Library strategy may be more appropriate as an action plan.
- Susan provided information and additional resources for the Public Safety sub-topic:
 - She visited with Kathy Baker, with Human Resources for the city. She indicated that the salary for police officers can fluctuate based on education and experience.
 - Columbia Police Department requires police officers have 60 hours or more of college; our understanding is that the CPD is one of the few who have this requirement. Kathy Baker indicated officers often work more than 40 hours per week. There are a shortage of candidates for

- police officer positions, but she believes retention is good as there's not significant turnover.
- Sgt. John White had referred Susan to Officer Vance Pittman. Officer Pittman had suggested reviewing the website city-data.com. For crime statistics, he recommended another website – UCR. Other resources for crime statistics would be the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and LIRS.
 - Discussion was held about limitations CPD faces as far as additional community programs, patrolling, without increases in staffing. Susan mentioned the possibility of an increase in the “bed tax” to cover an increase in downtown crime and additional policing.
 - Discussion was held regarding existing community outreach (CPD) programs and how to better communicate those programs.
 - Steve recommended using cameras to deal with traffic issues, although there has been resistance to these due to privacy concerns.
 - Susan suggested the public be encouraged to utilize the traffic hotline – perhaps need to publicize this, and educate citizens on using.
 - Ibrahim suggested it might be a good idea to contact the MU Police to better understand their role/limitations.
 - After some discussion, it was decided to ask the Chief of the Columbia Police Department, Randy Boehm, to attend our next meeting.
- Louesa reported that the Health and Social Services Topic Group had been contacted regarding possible overlap with one of our Public Works goals. Becky Wagner, the co-facilitator, had responded by email indicating that they “...have certainly discussed mobility challenges, but not specifically ice and snow removal. Good point; falls right into community services. Will bring up at tonight’s meeting.” Ibrahim suggested that if the Health topic group can’t address the mobility concern, we may want to leave this only as the strategy.

III. Motions and Votes

Aside from approval of the minutes, no motions were made and no votes were taken.

IV. Actions to be Taken

Steve will contact Chief Boehm to determine the best date for him to meet with us. Monday, June 4; Tuesday, June 5; or Thursday, June 7, will be given as options, and then Louesa will communicate the date to the group.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.