



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Draft PUBLIC SAFETY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 12, 2012

5:00 PM

Madison Fire Department - Administration Building
325 West Johnson Street

Present: 8 -

Jill Johnson; Merrilee Pickett; Ernest E. Horinek; David K. Dison; Ryan M. Jennisen; Maurice S. Cheeks; Matthew J. Phair and Chan M. Stroman

Excused: 2 -

Paul E. Skidmore and John E. Keckhaver

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Merrilee Pickett made a motion to approve the April 12, 2012 Public Safety Review Committee meeting minutes. Alder Jill Johnson seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals.

REPORTS

1. [25729](#) Report: 2012 Southwest Safety Initiative - Captain Wahl, Madison Police Department

Attachments: [2012 Southwest Safety Initiative.pdf](#)

Captain Wahl from the West District shared that last fall during the budget process two Westside Alders introduced an amendment to add 30,000 to the police budget for a southwest safety initiative. The amendment required that the Police Department come up with a plan on how to utilize the money and that the plan is approved by the Public Safety Review Committee and Board of Estimates. He said that geographically the efforts are targeted by the neighborhoods in the district that are covered by Neighborhood Resource Team's. He said that they will be focusing primarily on the Raymond Rd. corridor with the funds used for overtime staffing for police resources with a small amount used for Building Inspection and training put on from the Apartment Association for property owners. The focus he mentioned will be on high visibility, officers on afterschool bus routes, and CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design). Pickett inquired on what is the

goal of the initiative. Captain Wahl responded that looking back at the Raymond Rd. corridor the past 4 or 5 years the area is in a better situation as it relates to crimes and serious incidents. He said that there is a lot of quality of life issues that take place that have an impact on residents and perception. The focus is to be tactical in proving residents perception in the neighborhood and our ability to respond.

Horinek made a motion of approval. Alder Phair seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously in favor of approving the report.

2. [25906](#)

Report on the Mifflin Street Block Party - Captain Gloede, Central District

Central Police District Captain Gloede shared a brief history of the Mifflin Street Block Party since the late 60's early 70's. He said fast forwarding time over the last several years the City has tried many options such as bringing stakeholders together to try and create an event that has vending and a stage with entertainment rather than just drinking that typically turns into chaos and results in significant costs to the city. Unfortunately he said last year which was the most significant organized event that had a stage, entertainment, and food vendors that allowed the ability to have alcohol on the street turned the event into something that nobody desired and the outcome was pretty shocking. Last year he shared officers were injured, there were two stabbings, sexual assaults, and other acts of violent behavior. He said that left us with this year with what to do and many people's sentiment to end the event. He shared that the reality is that the event has been happening and how do you end something that happens. He then said that early December that the Mayor's Office, Central District Alders, Capitol Neighborhoods and Student representations from different organizations met to try and come up with once again a plan that would shift the emphasis from a drinking event to something more acceptable. He shared that the student organizations diligently tried to come up with a sponsor and the end result is that there was not enough time and the willingness for a sponsor to take ownership. He then said that the event that will be coming on May 5th will not be a block party, but an event. He then shared a definition of a typical block party within a neighborhood which would be residents in the neighborhood having a social gathering with maybe a cookout with a limited time frame and number of people who have a connection to that block. He shared there would not be a need for city or police resources, public nuisances, or widespread damage or trash. He said if you have ever been to Mifflin Street that is just the opposite sharing it is not just the residents of Mifflin Street two block area it is people from across the Country. He said this is evident as when the police have contact with arrests they find that they are coming from across the Country and that is the reputation the event has had in the past. The effort that the police department is making this year is that there will be something there but it will not be a sponsored event with no entertainment, food vendors, or preemptive street closures. He shared that the police department has been and will continue to work with Mifflin Street residents and the student population in general and are very narrowly describing what is acceptable behavior and encouraging compliance on their part. He said the efforts last year put the police department back many years in the efforts of control. The event last year had an open alcohol atmosphere sharing that it is believed it will be a challenge this year to put it back in the regularly framework being that it is not a free for all to have alcohol everywhere you choose and to bring as much in and to get drunk and create chaos. Sharing that as an effort to relay that message the police department will be doing a high profile campaign to get the word out.

He said they have been working with students from other Universities where students have come from in the past as well as some High Schools that hear of the event and want to experience it. He said there will be a greater number of police resources spread out over the weekend to provide consistent and what the police department believes will be a fair emphasis to keep control of the weekend. He shared that additional officers will monitor the neighborhoods in the area. On Saturday he said the Central Community Policing Team (CPT) will get an early start working closely with distributors to maintain compliance with keg sales and distribution of alcohol. He said leading up to the weekend there will be an attempt to contact every residence in the Mifflin Street area to convey the message providing print documents of what will take place, what is expected, and information provided if they do choose to have a party at their rental unit and how to do it safely. He shared the emphasis will also involve working with property owners and management companies in that area to get their support and assistance in managing their properties. He mentioned that CPT will also actively work with the residents down there and to also provide assistance when things get out of control. He shared something new they are expanding from last year is CPT Sergeants sharing their number so that the host of the party can call and ask for assistance if the party should become out of control. He said that the party will be cleared however once this happens they will no longer be able to host another party at that residence. This he said has been received well by the students with this mutual working relationship. He said there are also forms that the students thought of to document the situation. He mentioned that the University PD will not be assisting that day, but will focus their efforts on campus having the MPD to backfill those numbers because the MPD utilizes their crowd management team with our management team in the Mifflin proper area. He shared the Dane County Sherriff's Office is offering their assistance to support MPD. In addition, they will also be bringing in six additional horses from the State Fair Police for Saturday which will be used along with the Madison Team in the area to monitor with moving crowds should there be a need for that. Officers will also be working from different units such as bike patrol. He said they are going back to the arrest processing plan that hasn't been used for a number of years given the fact that after accessing the situation with this events potential of having a higher number of arrests or citations making it no longer feasible to have this capability on site. For this year if individuals are arrested for citations or physical arrests they will be transported to the City-County building where the arrest processing will take place. He shared it allows a much safer environment for Commissioned and Civilian staff that doesn't expose them to risks on the street in an environment that is potentially out of control. Captain Gloede mentioned lastly that if there was a need to minimize staffing during the day that staff could be released, however given the potential of the event there was a need to plan for the worst case scenario. Chief Popovich from the Madison Fire Department added that the Operations Chief has also elected to add two additional ambulances, two paramedics on each rescue, and three additional emergency medical technicians for those same reasons.

3. [25901](#)

Report/Presentation from the Madison Fire Department: Hovde, Annual Report, Budget, etc. - Chief Popovich

Assistant Chief Popovich from the Madison Fire Department shared with the committee a brief update on the Hovde development for Fire Station #1, Fire Capital Budget, and the Fire Department itself. He said Hovde, a developer

approached the Mayor and Fire Chief and inquired if they wanted to be part of an existing construction project when he shared a powerpoint of the area indicating that Hovde properties could develop between Johnson and Dayton Street. The project he shared would include a 14 story building with apartments and retail outlets on Johnson Street. He said as of now the proposed project is at the stages where it would concentrate on the Fire Department Administration building that is close to Fire Station #1 through a land purchase with Hovde and that Station #1 would be left alone. He said an advantage is that there would be no relocation of personnel. He said that there has been talk of funding and that originally both of the buildings were going to be rebuilt being 18 to 20 million and now it is down to half of that with the concentration of the Administration Building with minor upgrades to Fire Station #1. He said it is an exciting project, but nothing that the Fire Department budgeted for. He said it will be presented to the Council after funding has been discussed. He shared the Council has seen a resolution for a small amount of money to start with architectural design fees and that the next piece would be to work on a request for proposal to seek an architect in the upcoming days. Next, he touched on the budget when he distributed a few handouts sharing that there is an operating and capital budget. He began with the capital budget with the timeline sharing the process that begins in May to the final date that the budget would be adopted in November. He shared the various priorities that the Fire Department requested in their budget through 2017 and which ones were adopted and those that were not. He said that one issues with 2013 is that Fire Station #13 was being planned for and now with the Administration Building and Fire Station #1 in the process he doesn't know what will happen although no information has been shared to stop the process of Station #13 which would be built on the far Eastside. He mentioned that #13 is something they are real excited about as they think that is a real priority within the department with keeping that station on track. He shared that although there are costs for the equipment the larger cost is the funding needed for personnel to operate being that it takes four people 24/7 to staff an engine and that there would be a need for 18 additional people to open a station. He shared that they have applied for a grant that would staff 18 people for a duration of two years and will know if they are approved for the grant in the Fall. He then said if they don't get the grant there would need to be decisions on where the money would come from and if the project would continue. Next, he briefly touched on the Fire Department and shared the organization chart. He said that there is four administrative staff that supports a 375 member department. He shared that all Fire Department staff are also trained as Emergency Medical Technicians/Staff and some staff are also trained as paramedics. He then mentioned response times and how staff is dispatched. He then talked about response times saying that it is best to get to the call in 5 minutes although the guidelines from research and development indicate 5 to 8 minutes to stop a fire from expanding and creating more damage and injury or life loss. He said the 5 minute response time starts as soon as the call comes into the station with changing clothing, discussion plan and getting to the call. He said this also applies to EMS. He mentioned as the city expands the more difficult it is to get to the call within the timeframe. Lastly, it was shared that the Fire Department has a ride-along program that anyone can participate in if interested.

Committee Reports

4. [25903](#) Report from Alder Skidmore on the Dane County 911 Center Board

Alder Skidmore was excused absent from the meeting therefore the report on the Dane County 911 Center meeting will take place at the May meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

The committee discussed future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

Alder Phair made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maurice Cheeks seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.