

Davis Police Department
Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2008

Present: Judi Adelman, Hamza El-Nakhal, Patti Fong, Jeremia Kimelman, Janis Lott, Pam Mari, Carlos Matos, Diane McGee, John Pamperin, Carla Pion, Kevin Wolf

Guests: Captain Darren Pytel, Administrative Aide Pat Snyder

Round Table

Janis Lott reported that there has been conversation downtown regarding Davis Community Church, homeless, the rotating shelter and Central Park. She said services that are being provided are good, but criminal activity and vandalism are happening. Janis served on a committee to talk about the building of lockers for storing the homeless person's possessions. This has also become a controversial issue. She expressed a need for neighbors south of Fifth Street to get connected in order to have improved communication and input. Captain Pytel offered to make this a topic he would address at the close of this meeting.

Pam Mari reported that the second "Community Conversations" will take place this Saturday, November 15, at the Brunelle Performance Hall of the Davis High School at 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The focus will be on the Achievement Gap. Various stakeholders (community, parents, educators, etc.) will come together and talk about achievement specifically for those who are falling behind, students of color and low economic status. Training for moderators is taking place at the Police Department on Friday, November 14th at 5:00 p.m. Police Department representatives have been involved in these conversations and also participated in a Youth Substance Abuse Summit with follow up meetings.

Hamza El-Nakhal said that he attended an interfaith meeting at the Davis Community Church and there was concern about the rezoning of the church property. He thanked the community for their support during the grand opening of the Islamic Center and for help in replacing the crescent that was stolen. Hamza announced an Interfaith Accord for Unity meeting that took place on the UC Davis campus on November 12. The Annual Celebration of Abraham will be St. James Catholic Church on Jan 25th at 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Diane McGee announced that the Friends of the Library will hold their bi-monthly book sale on December 4 – 7 at the Library. They have raised close to \$80,000 for the library so far. She also reported on the work of Project Linus and asked that people who have blankets to donate or know of people or groups that can use them, please contact her at mcgeedav@dcn.org. Davis citizens have donated 126 blankets so far and many more have been distributed in Davis due to additional contributions from the Sacramento branch. Blankets are in each patrol car.

Jeremia Kimelman is the new representative from ASUCD. He is the Campus Safety Coordinator and reported that all is going well right now.

<i>Round Table continued</i>	<p>John Pamperin said he is impressed with the work of Community Conversations and the sophistication of the issues discussed. He believes there is hope as children who need the help are targeted with the necessary support. John believes the homeless numbers are rising and there is a lot of emotion in the community over Prop 8.</p> <p>Carlos Matos reported the October Concilio awards ceremony, dinner, and dance was a success. Chief Black attended.</p>
<i>Chief's Update</i>	<p>Captain Pytel reported that the city, like the State, is experiencing a financial deficit. On Monday, November 10, City Manager Emlen sent an update memo to all City employees and explained cost containment measures. Grant funding of the Sacramento Regional High Tech Task Force (in which we participate) will be suspended as early as January 1, 2009. We are currently canceling training and education that is not mandatory. Non essentials are cut.</p>
<i>School Resource Officer Position</i>	<p>Captain Pytel explained that youth issues were a major concern brought up in the community/police strategic planning process. We are currently looking into creating a School Resource Officer position with resources we already have. The details of the position are being determined.</p>
<i>Homeless in Davis</i>	<p>Captain Pytel explained the homeless issues in downtown Davis. He indicated that crime is increasing in the area around Central Park. Services and meals are being providing at the church. The lockers are intended to be a temporary safe place to keep possessions for no more than a day while homeless attend doctor and service appointments and look for employment. Pytel said that the church has been working with the City and community to talk about the problems and take steps to alleviate crime and safety issues.</p> <p>Members brought up various topics such as mental and substance abuse issues and County services cuts. Diane McGee suggested a Davis Enterprise investigative report series to stimulate community problem solving and awareness. Captain Pytel said homelessness is a very complex policing issue and that it is not just in Central Park.</p>