

**Community Policing Action Council (CoPAC)  
Ypsilanti, Michigan**

**Minutes  
March 07, 2006  
6pm, Haab Building**

**In Attendance:**

CoPAC Members: George Basar (YPD), Peter Hubbard (Gerganoff), Rodney C. Nanney (Midtown), Judy Williston (CHENA), Robert Miller (Friends of the YPD), Esther Williams (Gateway Community Council), Tisha Moore (Woods Road), Megan Turf (Prospect Gardens), Rod Johnson (Historical Eastside), Andy French (DTA), Matt Harshberger (YPD), Steve Pierce (Historical Southside), Greg Peoples (EMU), Margaret Ann Kildau (Prospect Park), Walter Norris (YHC), Diane Keller (YCC).

Others: Paul DeRidder (YPD)

Minutes from the previous meeting (January 3, 2006) were approved.

**Treasurers Report**

\$1233.45 total.

**Committee Reports**

Marketing Committee

Nothing to report until events start later on in the year.

**Neighborhood Reports**

EMU

Dr. John Fallon's Inauguration Celebration will be held Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Does any CoPAC representative want a "Student Center" Introduction/Lecture for their group? Possibly the groups around the University? If so, contact Greg Peoples ([gpeoples@emich.edu](mailto:gpeoples@emich.edu)).

CHENA

In their next meeting, they will discuss the possible Income Tax for the city.

MIDTOWN

The Down-zoning Plan is going before City Council tonight. It's the 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**Old Business**

Changes to the bylaws

- a. Addition of the following sentence in Section 3: "An alternate representative should be provided by each member to be present during any member's absence."
- b. Typo change from "monthly on as needed" to "monthly or as needed".
- c. Update of Appendix II (membership list).

All changes were accepted.

### Summer Picnic

Rebecca will contact Rod to discuss details.

### Ypsilanti Pride Day

Ypsi Pride Day is May 20<sup>th</sup> this year. Gardeners from the Gardening Club and Growing Hope will be participating. We will be giving away wristbands instead of t-shirts again this year. More perennials will be used this year for a more permanent, low maintenance upkeep.

Any group that wants to adopt an area (do maintenance and upkeep throughout the summer) can contact Diane Keller ([Diane@ypsichamber.org](mailto:Diane@ypsichamber.org)).

### DNA Letter

Margaret Ann announced that she had received the information for this and will be passing it on to Megan Turf to start the letter to our State Legislature.

## **New Business**

### Website

Who will replace Nancy Vogt to maintain the YpsiCopac.org website?

Greg Peoples will check with EMU to see if a student is available. Until then, Megan Turf will get the website information from Nancy and see if some small things can be fixed until then.

### Letter of Recommendation for Deputy Chief Harshberger

Chief Basar and Deputy Chief Harshberger were asked to please leave the room as the rest of those present discussed the possibility of writing a letter of recommendation for D.C. Harshberger on behalf of CoPAC to the search committee. The measure was passed unanimously.

### Special Presentation

On behalf of CoPAC, Chief Basar was presented with a card and a gift certificate to Paesano's Restaurant as a retirement gift.

## **Police Report**

Budget problems still exist. The YPD is expecting a 3-5% budget cut this year.

### New Special Events Proposition

Deputy Chief Harshberger explained the new legislature going before City Council that evening:

City Hall, the YPD, and DPW have worked together on a new proposition in order to raise more funds for the city with regard to Special Events. The Ypsilanti Jaycee's will take over the responsibilities of coordinating the participating individuals and paperwork as well as get those putting on the Special Event to reimburse the YPD and DPW 50% of the cost of them having to work the event. Next year, Event's will be responsible for reimbursing 100% of the cost of having YPD and DPW work the event. In return, the Ypsilanti Jaycees will receive the cost of the application fee to put towards other projects in the community.

He also noted that having beer tents and alcohol at an event requires the presence of more officers. Due to the small number of available officers, those that do work events end up charging overtime. This proposition would allow the city to recoup some of that money this year and all of it next year.

This new proposition should not affect Neighborhood Associations because it was decided by the city, in the interest of furthering and enhancing Community-Oriented Policing, to exempt CoPAC recognized neighborhood block parties and picnics, including the CoPAC city-wide picnic.

## **Nuisance Abatement Team Update**

Lieutenant Paul DeRidder gave us an update of what the NAT team has been working on lately.

Magazine Rack business has been closed for a while. The owner must bring it up to proper building and fire codes before he can re-open.

Young St - Owner received an extension to clean up the property. It is currently now for sale.

Martin Place - [Sorry, missed this one. If anyone has it, they can send it to me and I'll add it].

Owendale - Parking issues. A "No Parking Zone" was passed. However, Peter H. from Gerganoff noted that people are now using the local business parking lots as parking lots. Chief Basar commented that he was aware of at least one business who had an agreement with those parkers.

Catherine - Weird building where small businesses kept popping up. One week a beauty salon appeared. Quite a few abandoned cars littered the property, so the YPD sent the "Auto Theft" group down to run them through SOS (Secretary of State). The Fire Marshall went to do an inspection. No results on Fire Marshall or Auto Theft group since both occurred earlier today.

The three houses by Dairy Queen - 1 is being torn down, the other 2 are being refurbished.

1610 Gregory - Has been resolved. A law firm in California is selling the house.

402 S. Huron - Abandoned. Fire Marshall is concerned with the safety to the neighborhood.

They are going to demolish the garage because it is in such bad shape. There is currently a court cases against the owners, but they've left the state. City Attorney is trying to figure out who to charge the costs to b/c owners no longer local.

Thompson Building (Cross & River - Kircher's building) - Scaffolding was put up to keep mortar and bricks from falling on pedestrians. The court hearing about the case was postponed today, so no news.

There was an arrest in the Tanning Salon burglary case.

Feel free to email Lieutenant Paul DeRidder if you have any questions or want an update on a property - [pderidder@cityofypsilanti.com](mailto:pderidder@cityofypsilanti.com)

## **Next Meeting**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING TUES., MAY 02, 2006

EXECUTIVE MEETING TUES., APRIL 04, 2006