

Austin Neighborhoods Council

Minutes of the July 23, 2003 Monthly Meeting

Location

Austin Energy, 721 Barton Springs Road.

Official meeting called to order

President Bryan King called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm on Wednesday, July 23, 2003.

ANC Executive Committee in attendance:

Bryan King, President (South Lamar, NA); Bob Schrader, 2nd Vice President (West Creek); Elizabeth Yevich, Secretary (Zilker); Dana Lockler, Sector 2 Rep; Susan Pascoe, Sector 4 Rep.[WANG]; Jeff Jack, Clean Air Force Delegate (Zilker). 22 members were present in total.

Program

Topic: Austin Police Department

Chief Stan Knee gave an overview of the City of Austin's Police Department statistics citing that traffic fatalities were down along with violent crime (rapes/robberies/auto theft). However, aggravated assaults were up as well as theft which was up 6% from this time last year. With the majority of reported crime being the break-in of cars APD was centering their focus around career thieves.

Chief Knee went on to discuss the upcoming COA budget cuts but added that he was "comfortable" with what was currently being outline for his department. A question/answer period followed. Questions were raised regarding trends in theft following trends in unemployment; factors in the reduction of crime, etc. Chief Knee stressed that the formation of the Drug Court had reduced the recidivism rate by 70%. However, Chief Knee did say that his Dept was struffling with the high turnover rate of the District Reps. saying it resulted from promotions as during the past 5.5 years, his staff has grown from 900 to 1,400.

Presentations and Updates

Lolita Slagle reminded the membership that August 6th is National Night Out and encouraged all to get together with their neighbors emphasizing 'block' gatherings.

Envision Central Texas consultant Lucy Buck presented on where that planning project is now with input from ECT board member and ANC Past President, Jim Walker. Ms. Buck said that separate plans have been drawn up representing four "what if" scenarios. However, many questions regarding these plans are still outstanding yet ECT plans to present these scenarios to the public in a Sunday supplement around the first of October. Before that date,

Action Items

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.