

AGENDA

Meeting Notes

PERSONEL, JUDICIAL & GENERAL WELFARE, RECREATION, LIBRARY AND REGIONAL PLANNING

COMMITTEE MEETING

April 17, 2012

Chair: William J. Rivera

Board Members: Stephanie kayak and Michael Michalski

Meeting called to order at 4:36pm. Mike and Stacy not in attendance. Councilman Rivera opens by thanking everyone for their patience in terms of how these meeting are run. Promises to put an agenda together that will run meeting most smoothly.

Started meeting addressing Roger Heyden in the Personnel Department. Asked about hiring part time position in DLDC. Roger states that is not City Personnel and goes on to explain that there are no matter to report at this time. Roger goes on to explain the City Personnel/ Human Resources department is made up of two people that are Mayoral appointed as per the City Charter. Michael Michal ski Arrives after appointment.

Chairman Rivera goes on to explain and apologize for a lack of meeting notes and promises that it will not happen again in the future.

Chair Rivera Addresses Chief Ortolano and asks for a Report from the police department. Chief states we found a need to update our in service training videos on sexual harassment. Lieutenant McAfee has been able to obtain some new DVDs so if there is anyone interested in viewing they are invited to do so.

Chief also states that in terms of recreation we are going to start to see a lot more activity. The Police Department is already moving towards developing plans to handle the extra activity in terms of public safety. Councilman Rivera asks about a curfew and the Chief explains that curfew law is midnight. States that "if they are 16 they can be given an appearance ticket. If they are under 16 we pick them up, we document that they have been picked up and turn them over to a parent and we document that the parent has been advised that their child is in violation and if we catch them a second time the law allows us to charge the parent. That is the process that we are allowed to follow. There are exceptions. The guys aren't going to harass anyone who may be on way home but the idea is to catch those who are up to no good".

Chairman Rivera states that he has been taking numerous complaints pertaining to the speeding in school zones.

RECEIVED
CLERK'S OFFICE
NEW YORK, N.Y.
2012 SP - 5 PM 12:58

Chief Ortolano explains that the next public safety meeting he will have a report of how many arrests as well as a on the extended enforcement in the school zones and how successful it has been. They are writing a lot of tickets. If you go on Central Avenue between 7 and seven thirty you will notice a very significant presence. Chief goes on to explain that it is something he is very aware of and there will continue to be a high presence in that area.

Chairman Rivera asks Councilman Michalski if he has any questions since he missed the early part of the meeting. Mike brought up the landlord property manager policy. Councilman Rivera goes on to state that he has reached out to the folks in Niagara falls whom are running the zoom program and it seems to work for them. Rivera continues to state that he will be reaching out to them again, will reach out to Rose floramo and would like to have a public forum on the matter. He goes on to state that in talking with the public on this matter it has not been received warmly. Council Woman Szukala arrives.

Council Man Michalski goes on to explain the main premise of the proposed policy and reiterates the pushback from residents he has received on Such a policy. Council Woman at large Kiyak question the reasoning behind the pushback if we have a policy that will address the delinquent landlord problem. Council Woman Szukala goes on to explain that "in the end what was proposed was that they wanted um somebody to be a case manager or manager for the property and I hate to tell you this but who is going to step forward and be a property manager for some of these properties knowing that your going to be the one to get the fine or go to jail". Councilman Rivera goes on to point out that it is the wording that is the sticking point in this policy proposal that we will have to work out if we are going to get anywhere with this policy to address the issue of absent landlords and neglected property. Conversation on this matter continues for several minutes with the group attempting to find out what is the best way to handle this matter in terms of addressing State and Federal law that may supercede and local ruling in addressing non residential property owners. Council Man Rivera ties up the topic stating that this conversation has shown that everyone in this room still believes that this is a matter which must be addressed by the city and we will continue to move forward on the proposed property management policy and will look into getting someone from either Jamestown or Niagara falls to speak on their property manager policies.

Chair Rivera Addresses Chief Ahlstrom. Chief states that there is some news in his department that he wishes to share in the workshop. No other news to report.

Chair Rivera Addresses Council Woman Szukala since she arrived late to the meeting. Stacy states she has no questions. She goes on to state that the City Charter has gone missing from the Library. It will have to be replace. Reminds everyone the city charter is online as well. She also states that they did not approve a raise for the library which she was very happy about and we also took away benefits that the part time people were getting. So as of January 1st the only people who are getting benefits are the full time people. Some good things they are serving a lot of people over there are a lot of people coming in to do the computer classes the computer room is full if you haven't been over there in the past year I suggest you go. A lot of good things happening but we are trying to cut down expenses and operating expenses. They are even considering closing on Saturday over the summer. Stacy goes on to state she has been putting her meeting minutes in everyone's mailbox.

Chair Rivera goes on to address City Lawyer Ron Szot and asks if he has any comment on use of public buildings. Mr. Szot has no comment. Councilwoman Szukala asks Councilman Michalski What are his thoughts about the use of public buildings. Mike agrees with Mayor Dolce on the statement he made about this being a public building and doesn't want to drive

anyone away. Stacy continues by asking Mike how he would feel about sending a letter to the CAC telling them this is your time frame you can meet that's your Wednesday six to eight thirty until we have a policy put into place. Mike agrees. The group agrees that a policy must be put into place because of the concerns that are coming up because of the extended use of the building in recent months by the CAC.

In clarification of the origin and purpose of the CAC city resident Jim Muscato brought up the point that the chair of the CAC has made public statement that they are a political group. He also pointed out that they are not doing what they were originally created to do. Mr Muscato reminded that the city gave up control of the CAC years ago and he also made the recommendation that the City take the CAC back under its control so it can do what it was originally meant to do.

Chair Rivera addressed City Resident and member of the CAC Greg Sek who stated that "we are not political we are not saying we are for the Democratic party or for Republicans we are for the people the citizens of Dunkirk. That all we are". Council woman Szukala stated that "a couple people have made some comments that make it look that way". Referring to the CAC as a political group. Grek Sek goes on to express his concern for the group being disbanned by the council. Jim Muscato closes by saying "Ive made this statement before there are actually good people on that committee I think they are being dictated to that's all im saying that the way they are making that approach to it turns the whole purpose of that committee around". Chair Rivera closes by stating "to be continued".

Chair Rivera closes by stating that notes will soon to follow and that they next meeting date has not yet been set. Meeting adjourned at 5:24pm.