

ROCKFORD EDGEWATER BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF 1/20/2016

Called to order 1/20/2016, 5:36 pm. Present: John Beck, President: Tim Moore, Dick & Barb Berman, Michael Goddard, Mark Podemski, Jennifer Smith, Drew Williams, Michelle Bowman, Bill Simpson, B. J. Alexis, a quorum was present.

Guests: Jason C. Leviskas, Public Affairs Manager of Ill. State Comptrollers Office, John Guevara County Board Manager, Jesse Washington, Field Services Bureau, Rockford Police Dept.

General Comments: Officer Jesse Washington spoke first going through crime statistics for January of which there were none yet, in December 2015 there were 6 Group A offenses (more violent) and 3 Group B offenses (less violent). Officer Washington will have more information at the next meeting. We were informed that States Attorney is 6 lawyers short, with case back logs, probation back logs and they are trying to reinvest in youth programs, with juveniles they have 58 people in a 49 bed facility. Officer Washington did tell us that the current rash of robberies were random being committed mostly by juveniles, not believed to be gang related at this time. According to local news, mostly committed between 4 pm and 8 pm.

Alderman Report: New Towne vote was yes, really nothing else that could be done. The city council is moving quickly to modify ordinances. Snow plowing issues were due to the type of precipitation, rain, ice, snow, and plows had to go fast to get through the mess. Alley plowing was slow because person in charge of the alley plowing was out of town and could only go by what he knew at the time, we had less than two inches of snow and two inches or more is what triggers the alley plowing.

Approval of December 2015 minutes Tim Moore 2nd by Michelle Bowman, Passed.

Approval of Treasurer's Report Tim Moore. 2nd by Drew Williams. Passed. Discussion: Deposit of dues in late December and January will be on next month's report. Pay Pal is still a problem and board members will work to rectify the issues.

General Discussion:

Easter Egg Hunt buy eggs already stuffed, not with premier candy, at \$100.00 per 1000 eggs. Need a minimum of 4 golden eggs--the Dentists on Main will donate two eggs, Michelle Bowman will donate one golden egg. Easter Bunny costume was newly purchased last year. Barb Berman will get the Key Club again this year to help.

Drew mentioned the water bill for watering plants and trees along Auburn St. Edgewater website is up to date, Facebook is up to 483 fans as of 1/16/2016. And Nextdoor is up to 466. We will be adding businesses to newsletter distribution list. We will be advising all of the events between Easter and Fourth of July, possibly by passing out door knob information put out by "block members". Also the luminary and

Christmas dinner in the fall. Is it possible even with the permanent signs we are not advertising the events enough?

More effort must be put into the Christmas Party at the RCC, perhaps during next fall, if attendance isn't improved next year, the RCC cannot afford a prime rib dinner buffet with only some 50 people attending.

Luminary: there are more East of Cumberland than West. Michelle Bowman mentioned that an explanation of luminaries may be needed saying that those moving into the neighborhood may not know what the luminary display is all about. Tim Moore suggested that perhaps one block west of Cumberland should be given free luminaries to increase the amount of displays west of Cumberland.

Dick Berman questioned the street light policy and is Edgewater getting its fair share? John Beck, president and alderman mentioned the ordinance called for one at each intersection and one in the alley and wondered whether neighbors should be questioned if they wanted a street light in the middle of the street. John Beck mentioned he could get a map of where the street lights are located in the Edgewater area.

John Beck questioned if anyone else had anything to discuss. No. Edgewater meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

bja