



Commissioners Present: Lauren Bonner, Joseph Brown, Peg Falcone, Jovan Gathings, Jerrold Hennrich, Sidney Logwood, Dora Weaver

Commissioners Excused: Jeraldine Brown, Les O'Dell

Commissioners Absent: Adrian Miller

Study Circle Staff Present: Sarah Heyer

Guests Present: Carolin Harvey, Eric McMillan, SIU Public Safety Director Todd Sigler

Staff Present: Deborah McCoy, Lieutenant Paul Edwards

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Logwood at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Joseph Brown and seconded by Commissioner Hennrich approve the minutes from the May 6, 2013 meeting. Motion carried.

Announcements

None

Public Comments

None

Study Circles Report

Coordinator Sarah Heyer reported the Neighborhood Action Group will hold its next meeting on June 5, 2013, at the Civic Center. The group would like to hear more information on subpoena power.

Non-Violent Carbondale Progress Report

The group is working on a Conference of Peace that will be held in October.

June 3, 2013

Old Business

Law Enforcement Reports: Public Safety Director Todd Sigler presented a report on crimes associated with the University. There are two ways to look at crimes: quantitative and qualitative. With quantitative, the research behind the numbers is often flawed and the media is quick to latch on to those numbers. Qualitative crime reports are based on anecdotal or experiential information which can shape perceptions that might not be accurate or true. The Clery Act, also known as the Campus Security Act, required colleges and universities to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The law is tied to an institution's participation in federal student financial aid programs and it applies to most institutions of higher education, both public and private. Colleges/universities are required to publish an annual security report (ASR), have a public crime log, disclose crime statistics that happen on campus or in unobstructed public areas adjacent to or running through campus and at certain non-campus facilities (Greek housing, remote classrooms), issue timely warnings about crimes which pose a serious or ongoing threat to students and employees, devise an emergency response notification and testing policy, report fire data for on-campus housing, and enact policies and procedures to handle reports of missing students.

In April 2012, the Chancellor commissioned a task force to study how the crime issues at the university would be addressed. Some of the areas identified that needed attention included: communication, student mentoring and life skill development, faculty and staff training, and university and community collaboration. Policies and mandates were updated (e.g. conduct code), research components were added that included surveying students, faculty, and staff, and conducting focus groups housing. The report has been issued by the Chancellor and is on her website. The task force is in the process of implementing some of the changes.

Sigler commented that college campuses are generally safer than the communities in which they are located. Offenses are mostly property crimes and 80% is student-on-student crime. Men experience more violent crimes than women and roughly 10% of the student population contributes 30% of the situations. It should also be remembered that statistics can be lower on campuses where students usually go home for weekends.

Sigler suggested that the following might be helpful in addressing some of the student crime in Carbondale: 1) education, 2) work with neighborhoods so they are not overly student dominated, 3) eliminate bars that are far too accessible to freshmen students, and 4) invite everyone to be a part of the process so that adjustments improve the quality of life for all..

HRC Responsibilities, Role, Charges – Mr. McMillan presented the proposed Purpose and Mission Statement . Following much discussion, a Bylaws Committee, consisting of Commissioners Hennrich, Gathings, Bonner, Weaver, and Mr. McMillan, was established. The Committee will bring recommendations to the next meeting for consideration. Once the changes have been presented and discussed, a letter will be drafted to the Mayor and Council advising of the intent to amend the Bylaws with the recommended changes. A presentation will be made to the Council reviewing the charge and Declaration Policy of the HRC.

Continuing the Dialogue – Commissioners Bonner and Gathings presented the following ideas as a follow-up to discussion at the May meeting. (1) Orientation Sessions: To acquaint incoming freshmen students with various services that are available on campus, to educate young individuals on how to properly document situations, and to provide an opportunity to meet with diversity leaders. The City/HRC would sponsor the sessions for several groups who cannot provide the services on campus during new student orientation, e.g. Black Resource Center, Hispanic Resource Center, LGBTQ Resource Center, Wellness Center, etc. In addition, the Carbondale Police Department would be invited to send a few delegates who could introduce themselves, share something positive about the community and students, and speak briefly on what is involved in protecting and serving the community. Commissioner Joseph Brown will contact the directors/coordinators of the Resource Centers.

June 3, 2013

(2) Monthly Themes: Human relations themed events scheduled September through April (except January). A representative from the HRC would briefly introduce the theme to the City Council at a Council Meeting. Discussions with representatives of the themed party would be conducted with a summary report of findings being presented to the City Council at their next meeting. Suggested themes include sexual assault prevention, bicycle and motorcycle awareness, racially related, LBGTQ related, elderly/underprivileged/physical disability, law enforcement relations, communities of faith. It was also suggested that articles be written for the editorial page of the Southern Illinoisan.

Unfinished Discussion

- 1) Letter to the City Council regarding law enforcement reports from agencies other than the Carbondale Police
- 2) Letter to Chief O'Guinn requesting annual report

New Business

None

Next Meeting: July 1, 2013

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Deborah McCoy _____