

FAIRWOOD CRIME PREVENTION AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Fairwood Branch Library

12910 Old Hammond Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

The Fairwood Crime Prevention and Improvement District (“District”) held a meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Scott Guirintano at 6:30 p.m.

The following Commissioners were present:

Patrick (Pat) Cormier

Lloyd Gavion

Scott Giurintano

Melanie Sims

The following Commissioner was absent:

Joanne Cowgill

Four members of the public were in attendance.

Announcement

Joanne Cowgill has resigned. However, an official resignation letter has not been sent.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Pat Cormier and seconded by Scott Giurintano to accept the minutes from the September 21, 2023, meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Act 393 of the 2023 Legislative Session

Act 393 of the 2023 regular legislative session made significant changes to the Open Meeting Law and created a new non-emergency exception to certain boards and commissions. The Fairwood CPID Board must adopt a policy stating how we will accommodate members of the public who have a disability recognized by the ADA or their caretakers to allow them to participate in meetings via telephone or zoom. However, if the Board has less than six meetings a year the new law does not apply.

A motion was made by Scott Giurintano and seconded by Pat Cormier to add this information to the website.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to Dissolve Neighborhood Watch Committee

Since the Neighborhood Watch Committee does not have a current chair and the changes to the Open Meeting Laws would affect this Committee, Scott Guirintano made a motion to dissolve the Committee and transfer it to the Homeowners Associations. The motion was seconded by Pat Cormier.

The motion passed unanimously.

Treasury Report

The District received \$54.08 in parcel fees from the EBR Sheriff's Office. The bank confirmed the District could keep the \$192.00 that was electronically deposited into the account in September. The bank did not provide any additional information on the deposit.

Expenditures since the September meeting totaled \$8,561.50. This included payments for lawn care, private security patrol and Flock Security cameras. The current balance is \$6,492.74.

A motion was made by Melanie Sims and seconded by Scott Guirintano to move \$221.40 from City Permits and \$1.10 from Office Supplies to Flock Security Cameras to cover the taxes on the cameras.

The motion passed unanimously.

2024 Budget Proposal

The parcel fees will increase by 10%. The fee for residential property will increase from \$48.40 to \$53.24. The commercial fee will increase from \$242.00 to \$266.20. The cost for lawn maintenance, security patrol and P.O. Box are expected to remain the same. A 10% increase has been added to the cost of liability insurance for the Board. The cost for the seven cameras are estimated to be \$18,069.85.

The budget is over \$743.35. There was a recommendation to have Sherwood Manor donate at least \$1500 and it was also suggested that Country Ridge make a donation.

A motion was made by Scott Guirintano and seconded by Pat Cormier to accept the proposed budget for 2024.

The motion passed unanimously.

Flock Security Cameras – September 2023

During September 2023, there were 182160 license plates read.

There were 93 users of the system – 30 by the EBR Sheriff's Office and 63 by the Baton Rouge Police Department.

Flock Security Cameras – October 2023

During October 2023, there were 185,510 license plates read.

There were 96 users of the system – 27 by the EBR Sheriff's Office and 69 by the Baton Rouge Police Department.

Security Patrols – September 2023

In September 2023, there were 24 hours of security patrols over six days, with times ranging from 12 noon. to 2:30 a.m. During this time period, citations were written for seven stop sign violations.

Security Patrols – October 2023

In October 2023, there were 24 hours of security patrols over seven days, with times ranging from 12:00 noon to 2:45 a.m. During this time period, citations were written for 15 stop sign violations and 3 parking violations. Assisted other units on October 17th in response to shots fired near S. Flannery and Old Hammond Hwy.

Security Incidents in the District – September 2023

In September 2023, there were a total of 12 calls for assistance. This included five alarms, one crash, one medical request(assist), one neighborhood patrol, one non-crime incident, and three suspicious incident/person/vehicle.

Security Incidents in the District– October 2023

In October 2023, there were a total of 9 calls for assistance. This included four alarms, one follow up/ investigation, two neighborhood patrol and two traffic incident/conditions.

2024 Meeting Dates

The Board will meet on the following dates in 2024 at Fairwood Branch Library:

- January 18, 2024
- March 21, 2024
- May 16, 2024
- July 18, 2024
- September 19, 2024
- November 21, 2024

Adjournment

A motion was made by Scott Giurintano and seconded by Pat Cormier to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.