

District Four CAP Meeting Minutes January 16, 2007

Present were: Steve Reas, Tom Boggan, Randy Broussard, Beverly Castleberry, Marvin Paggen, Troy Rizzuto, Susan Settoon, Ron Phelps, Ryan White and Nancy Tower.

After introductions and the opening prayer, the panel discussed the Bayou D'Inde drainage concerns. A petition was passed around and it was decided that Tower would provide the petition electronically without numbers next to the names so that pages could be inserted as signatures are gathered. Each CAP member is asked to get signatures on a petition page so that we can put them all together and send them in by the second calendar quarter of 2007.

The CAP then discussed "next steps to institute recycling." For two meetings (October and November 2006) the panel gathered information and discussed options for recycling in Sulphur. Efforts by Tower to get the administration interested in taking steps toward recycling have been futile. Information provided and e-mails requesting action have resulted in zero response. As a result, Tower believes that the next step may be to move the issue through the council.

Although the council can not actually take action, the council can direct the administration to take action. The group discussed how the council might go about this undertaking and determined that a resolution would be a start. Tower will draft the resolution and ask the council to vote in support of it at the February meeting. CAP members are encouraged to attend the council meeting to support the resolution. Reas agreed to bring a month's worth of newspapers to the meeting and speak in support of the resolution.

The specific wording of the resolution was discussed. To encourage other council members to support the resolution it was suggested that it not include all the details, but simply require the administration to look into paper recycling at no cost to the citizens and report back to the council or implement the program. The program would include city recycling and the availability of recycling bins to the citizens.

Another topic of great interest recently is "traffic." Because of the interest in camera enforcement, a number of concerns have been brought forward but are not well understood by the community or the council. Many of the concerns are similar to the ones originally brought forward by the CAP members at our August 2005 meeting, such as: sidewalks, speeding, bicycle paths, coordinating traffic lights to allow for better flow, etc. The CAP discussed the fact that to properly address many of these issues the city could use the services of a Traffic

Engineer. A comprehensive study by a traffic engineer could help public works and the police departments address many of these concerns.

The CAP asked questions about the Police Department's traffic division. The group was informed of the fact that the SPD does not have a traffic division – at least they haven't had one for some time.

CAP members then asked that the new Police Chief come to the February meeting to talk with us about the possibility of re-instituting the traffic division. Not only could this help to curb our traffic violations, but it could pay for itself and additionally, routine traffic stops will find other violations such as; driving without insurance, with expired inspections, warrants, etc.

The next meeting of the CAP will be announced by e-mail since the regular date falls on Fat Tuesday.

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Submitted by: Nancy Tower