

Public Safety Committee Meeting Friday, May 19, 2017 | 2 PM Uptown Office | 3600 McKinney Avenue, Suite 210

Members in attendance: Tony Page, Robert Wright, Kelem Butts, Feargal McKinney, Susan Holland
Other in attendance: Nolan Marshall staff, Bailey Sanders staff, Paul Cogwell West Village security
Members absent: Paula Lambert, David Kunkle, Steve Huff, Aly Sergey, Kevin Curley, Albert Sanchez

Meeting was called to order at 2:06pm.

Approval of Minutes

Feargal McKinney motioned to approve the February meeting minutes, Robert Wright seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed.

Welcome and Introductions

Crime Report – Albert Sanchez

- I. The year-to-date statistics, as of April 30, show that violent crime is down 18% and property crime is down 13%. Officer Sanchez has begun tweeting to get in touch with the Uptown community with updates about incidents and how DPD is responding.
- II. Some major incidents in Uptown include a deadly conduct arrest at 2600 Hartman in the State Thomas Neighborhood. There was an aggravated robbery at Hall and Thomas, near the Comet Cleaners. DPD was able to catch the offenders.

New Business

- I. Feargal McKinney mentioned various businesses along McKinney, which back up to the State Thomas Neighborhood, have been raising funds to have an officer in a car on the streets from 11pm 3am. This costs around \$2,000. Nolan asked if this is something they would prefer for UDI to manage and pay for. Feargal stated that these businesses would prefer to manage it. The committee decided to keep up with how this works for the group, and to revisit how it went when it comes time to create the budget for 2018.
- II. Rover Program The crowds are increasing, which is attributing to crime and issues in the area. Nolan Marshall asked which businesses are causing some of the issues in the area. From McKinney Ave. to the Quadrangles, the businesses that project out loud music seem to be causing the most issues.

- III. Tony Page mentioned an initiative to bring back a paddy wagon to Uptown. This would aid the police officers in the area by allowing them to make an arrest without having to take the offender to the station thus taking the officer off the street for several hours.
- IV. Kelem Butts mentioned he has seen, on multiple occasions, people parking in lots along McKinney and surrounding streets and tailgating. On the times he has seen officers in the area, they do not seem to stop, write tickets, or try to move them along. These officers do not want to do anything about these kinds of offenses because it could take them off the street for several hours. The committee suggested speaking to the officers about writing more tickets.
- V. Nolan Marshall asked the committee what our first steps should be to deal with noise and foot traffic issues. Some establishments violate the noise ordinances. This could be a start to getting them to cooperate with the neighborhood's needs. Paul Cogwell stated that this citation is only a \$180 fine, and when this is called in, it takes the lowest priority during the night. If the establishment does receive multiple citations, they do face getting some licenses taken away such as special events and liquor licenses.
- VI. Tony Page suggested building a relationship or bringing in somebody who could take full control of this project and helping UDI make a difference. Melissa Miles was the previous community prosecutor, but has been moved to the City Attorney's office. Nolan Marshall suggested building a task force to reach out to the businesses in that area to have a conversation about property value and what they are bringing to the neighborhood.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30PM.