

Fayetteville Council of Neighborhoods
Minutes from August 17, 2006

August 20, 2006

- I. Introductions
- II. Mayor Dan Coody - Sales Tax Bond Issue
 - a. Bond issue goes to voters September 12 = VOTE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 - i. Proposed Sales tax increase to \$.02 - Same as the rest of NW Arkansas.
 - b. Four questions
 - i. Complete funding of city wide sewer system
 - ii. City wide sewer system overhaul
 - iii. Transportation improvements to increase mobility throughout Fayetteville area.
 - iv. Trail system connectivity
 - c. Approval of the bond issue will prevent the increase in sewer rates.
 - i. Sewer rates would increase 50% for 22 years if no sales tax increase is approved.
 - ii. Sales tax increase would pay for improvements in two years.
 - d. 50% of Fayetteville's sales taxes paid for by visitors to Fayetteville.
 - e. Transportation changes will unlikely be brought to the table again for a long time if this bond issue does not pass. Mr. Coody stressed that this is an excellent opportunity to address the traffic issues in Fayetteville.
 - i. Rebuild 265
 - ii. Ruple Road Corridor improvements, for example
 - f. All four of these questions need to be addressed soon.
 - g. One FCON rep asked whether or not the food sales tax could be removed since this affects low income families the most. Mr. Coody stated that the types of items taxed is dependent on the state government and not decided by city government.
- III. Jeremy Pate - Director of Current Planning, City of Fayetteville
 - a. The development process
 - i. Three steps in Development review process.
 - ii. Takes 40 days in Fayetteville. 23 in Bentonville and 30ish in Rogers.
 - iii. Mr. Pate stressed that Fayetteville is regularly commended for its consistency and structured process.
 - iv. Step one - Tech plat Review - Two weeks after application is submitted. App. is distributed to all utilities, police, fire, etc. for review.
 - v. Step two - Subdivision Committee (not necessarily about subdivisions). This is where the first public comment can take place.
 - vi. Step three - Planning commission - second place for public comment.
 - vii. Concerned citizens can meet with planning division.

- viii. FCON's role - Mr. Pate said that he recommends to all developers that they visit with the neighborhood before they begin. FCON reps act as contacts and liaisons.
- ix. You can request a list of the Subdivision Committee applications and have it sent to you via email.
- x. Currently trying to address follow up issues on developments because some projects aren't completed and are left sitting for the rest of the neighborhood to look at.
 - 1. Planning commission
 - 2. Code Compliance
 - 3. Building Safety
- xi. One rep suggested that there be a process by which neighbors can complain about problem developers.
- xii. Blue sign - code compliance
- xiii. Red sign - notification of subdivision meeting (first chance for public comment.)
- xiv. It was requested that 3D models be used to show impact on neighborhood.
- xv. Accessfayetteville.org

IV. Irene Gregg - SWEPCO lines

- a. SWEPCO requested to dismiss their request to bypass the public hearing for the 161,000 kv lines to pass through downtown Fayetteville along Gregg.
- b. City attorney, Kit Williams, and Lafayette neighborhood working to encourage SWEPCO to explore all the options for this area because the lines impact the historic areas and view of Old Main.

V. Neighborhood updates

- a. Three new N.A. - Copper Creek, Stonewood, Legacy Point
- b. Crosswalk safety awareness day October 11. Contact Paula Marinoni
- c. University Heights to meet with U of A to discuss student use of neighborhood for parking.
- d. Fayetteville Downtown Partners - Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month.
 - i. September 1 - Open Space Art Party is the opening event of the Fayetteville Fine Arts Festival to take place September 1,2,3 and 8, 9.
 - ii. Romance Diamond Event - August 23 - Celebration of Fayetteville arts - Free event.
- e. Botanical Gardens Free Jazz Concert September 17 5-8 pm
- f. Root School NA dealing with new development to go in on 28 acres and will house 300 families. Worried about the extreme density and increase in traffic.

VI. Next Time

- a. Findlay Edwards - Low Impact Development techniques
- b. Alderman candidates for October
- c. Crosswalk Awareness day presentations