

Cathedral Square Special Business District

Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m., August 18, 2021

The Greystone - 410 North Newstead Avenue

Commissioners Present: Imran Hanafi, Arthur Hoffman, Kenneth Sowell, Claudia Wall, Carolyn Welton

Commissioners Absent: Mike Roth

Others Present: Gary Cole and Ron Hasty of GCI Security and Laura Bushey, McPherson resident.

Minutes were approved.

Security Report

Hasty outlined the report previously distributed via email. Theft of catalytic converters continues to be an issue within and outside the CSSBD. One was stolen from a RV parked just north of The Greystone pool house on Newstead only minutes after the GCI officer had ended his shift. The owner of the RV and his dog were asleep within the vehicle when the catalytic converter was stolen.

Question raised by the theft: Can the camera's view be broadened by Brown Dog? Question raised not only because of the current incident but also because of previous incidents at the same site. Gary will look into the matter.

Welton reported that the business at 350 North Boyle had agreed to installation of a CSSBD surveillance camera on top of his building as long as it did not detract from the appearance of the structure. Gary will pursue this installation with the owner and Brown Dog.

Roth has not reported on any reaction from the nuns re allowing a camera on their property at Westminster Place and Boyle.

Treasurer Report

Wall distributed the report. No unusual budget activity occurred during the period, and Wall reported that she had added funding to the lighting budget.

New Business

Hanafi reported that the planned bicycle cut-through connecting Maryland Avenue and Boyle Avenue is being constructed. The CSSBD will follow the cut-through with installation of a wrought iron fence to replace the one destroyed by the motorist. The cost of the fence will be \$13,000, Hanafi said. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the bid and proceed with installation of the replacement fence.

Hanafi reported that a Maryland Avenue neighbor had spent \$300 of his personal money for plants for the Maryland bump-out. The board agreed that we should reimburse this cost to support this individual initiative to maintain this area for everyone's enjoyment.

Re an earlier report from a Westminster resident of trash on Maryland Avenue, Hanafi said that the cause was abandoned vehicles that meant that City street cleaning equipment could not collect trash in the area around the vehicles. Hanafi has contacted the Citizen Service Bureau, asking that the City ticket the vehicles in question and tow them if they continue to violate City ordinances by not being moved.

Hanafi reported that consulting firm Horner & Shifrin has said that it believes that more than the proposed 16 lights will be needed for the planned installation on Maryland. It proposed addition of a pedestrian-level light between the larger lights. Also, because the City will be moving to a different voltage for street lighting, new boxes will be required. The result of both changes would be that the project budgeted at \$200,000 will cost at least \$320,000.

Financing options discussed included the possibility of pursuing a grant or financing the over-budget amount through a bank as was done with the traditional lighting project undertaken by the District years ago.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Arthur Hoffman, acting secretary.