

**STRATHMORE-BEL PRE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES
October 24, 2017**

DATE: October 24, 2017
PLACE: Mid-County Rec Center

ATTENDEES:

John Bogasky	(Treasurer)	Bill Hammond	(Vice President)
Linda Bea	(Secretary)	Lilla Hammond	(Board)
Maury Potosky	(Board)	Justin Stone	(Board)

ABSENT:

Nancy Bechtol	(President)		
Josephine Bahn	(Board)	Elliot Chabot	(Board)
Rita Vaught	(Board)	Chris Swan	(Board)

GUEST:

Marlin Jenkins, Candidate for District 19 House of Delegates

Guest Speaker

Mr. Jenkins told the Board about his background and his platform.

Old Business

Minutes

The minutes were accepted as corrected.

New Business

Website

Chris Jennison will continue as the Webmaster. Billy Ruppert will pick up the bulk of the support work.

Octoberfest

The block party organized by Megan Virga was a success. Many people participated. The Boy Scouts brought all the tables over from the pool and were very helpful. People contributed food. A very successful event.

MCCF

Justin reported on the MCCF meeting.

- There was discussion on the free Express Montgomery County bus service. It does not seem like it is being widely utilized.
- They reviewed the Treasurer's Report.
- Chief Mager from MCPD and Patrick Mays, Head of the Gang Task Force, led a frank discussion of gang activity in Montgomery County. In January, crime in Montgomery County was down 4% from the prior year. It is significantly down over the last ten years. In 2016 there were 16 homicides in MC. The US average for an area our size is 60-65 per year. There are basically three types of homicides: drug related, gang related and domestic. Rapes are down 32% this year. Robberies are down. Aggravated assaults are up 14%. There has been an uptick in gang violence over the last two years. There were 20 gang-related homicides over the last two years. MS-13 is a big problem, but he doesn't feel; it is his biggest problem. There were 200-300 gang related incidents last year, and they were generally minor, mostly not violent or dangerous. There are other gangs in the area; OOZA, Bloods, Crypts. There is no organized control of the drug trade in Montgomery County. There is not a particular gang in charge. They are also working with Federal agencies to handle this problem.
- He stated he is more concerned with the opioid abuse, which is up 30%. There were 45 deaths last year and 130 non-fatal overdoses. They are pursuing criminal prosecution of suppliers.

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Annual Meeting

John reviewed the 2017 Actual/2018 Proposed Budget for the annual meeting. We discussed, and the budget was approved as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2018.

lkb