

MEETING MINUTES

SDNA Neighborhood Association Meeting

Tuesday May 24, 2022 @ 6pm - 7:30pm

● **Attendance:** Maddie Abd-Nameh, Uche Anomnachi, Heather Bopp, Jessica Bovey, Tim Crosby, Carrie Hough, Abdellatif Idris, Barbara Jay, Angie Jordan, Brad Kunke, Elinor Levin, Scott Lyon, Autumn McConeghey, Bob Oppliger, James Sandifer, Martha Shaw, Erin Sullivan,

● Old Business

- ***Approve** March Meeting Minutes

Motion: Bob Oppliger

Second: Tim Crosby

● New Business

- **Updates:**

- South District SSMID Board Updates (Elinor)

-If you want to be involved in improving the Pepperwood Plaza areas, reach out to Tim Crosby or Elinor Levin, who are the neighborhood resident members; Tracy Sargeant is on the board

-working on developing budget and primary goals for 2022-23, and on hiring process for Executive Director

- Events & Efforts:

- Team Up to Clean Up:

- A great success! Over 80 participants and 5 different sites!

- Neighborhood Monthly Bike Rides:

- 3rd Thursdays 6pm-7:30pm Meet at Grant Wood Elementary 1930 Lakeside Dr-4/21, 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18

- **Volunteers Needed:** Signup Genius [HERE](#)

- **Lead:** this volunteer will be the group leader whose role is to pick a bike route, check-in riders, do brief introductions and ride in front of the group to show the way. Knowledge of bike routes is helpful

- **Sweeper:** this volunteer will have the role of riding behind the group and ensuring no one gets left behind and assists with rider-check in and introductions.

- Diversity Markets:

- Saturdays, 1pm-7pm;@ Pepperwood Plaza Parking lot in front of JD Beauty Supply-1067 HWY 6 on 5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25,7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30

- **Volunteers Needed:** Entertainment Stage setup & take down

-We have twice the amount of vendors signed up for the market this year! (30-60) We have a waitlist!

-SDNA purchased sound equipment for neighborhood use that will be used at the Markets this year

-2 hours of free face painting at the Markets, check website/FB for hours each day

<https://southdistrictneighborhood.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/southdistrictdiversitymarket>

- **Guest Speakers/Panel and Q&A:**

- James Sandifer: Iowa City Police Department Reported Jan-May 18th 2022 statistics

Call For Service by Type	Grantwood	Pepperwood	South Pointe	Wetherby	Total
Traffic Stop	136	6	1	91	234
911 Hangup	75	10	1	54	140
Phone Request	70	3	1	42	116
Public Assist	30	1	0	35	66
Welfare Check	33	5	1	26	65
Motor Vehicle Accident	40	5	1	13	59
Mental Impairment	43	1	0	7	51
Extra Patrol Request	17	24	0	7	48
Criminal Mischief	13	1	0	4	18
Escort/Relay	5	5	0	1	11

Range: 1/1/2022 to 5/18/2022

- Q: What is the frequency of firearms-related incidences?
 - 2022 is low compared to 2021. Trends seem to be trending down from 2019/2020.
- Q: Incidence of traffic stops?
 - A: Downward trends, Covid has been a big influence on that. Domestic calls have spiked, also due to COVID (more people home spending more time together).
- Q: Has the ICPD seen an increase in violent crime in the South District?
 - Uncertain on specific numbers. Personal perspective: there has been a reduction in violent crime in the area due to COVID.
- Q: Is the corner of Sycamore/HWY 6 still a high vehicular accident area?
 - Yes.
- Will we see the presence of Police/Fire dept increase at community events?
 - Yes, for both Fire and Police departments. Staffing has increased somewhat, and community positions are being filled again.
- Q: How can SDNA be helpful to the various departments?
 - A: Fire—offering information and communicating with us. Tell us about your needs.
 - A: Sheriff—Encourage people to apply to law enforcement/public service/public safety.
 - A: Police—hold us accountable, keep inviting us into your communities so we can keep interacting.
- Scott Lyon: Iowa City Fire Department
 - No building fires in SD neighborhood boundaries this year!
 - Q: What is the average Fire Department response time?
 - A: About 6:24
 - Q: Any plans for a new fire station?
 - A: Yes, nothing concrete to report yet
 - Q: What measures led to no house fires in a year?
 - A: The Fire department did a “smoke alarm blitz” and passed out/installed fire alarms in 88 homes in 2021.
 - Q: Are there plans for more smoke alarm blitzes? How do we keep that positive momentum going?

- A: Yes, will be creating plans to continue similar interventions
 - Q: Do you have to be a US citizen to apply to work with the Fire department? What does the background check look for?
 - A: Yes, you must be a citizen, and can't be convicted of a felony. Federal laws on that would be difficult to change on our level. Similar for the Police department.
- Brad Kunkel: Johnson County Sheriff's Department
 - About 20% of the department's overall hiring was done in the last 2 years. So we have lots of new faces in the office
 - Recruitment for Sheriff's Department is still slow, looking for new hires
 - Looking to hire a social worker who can do outreach and help transition those in jail back into society.
 - Q: Is healthcare/mental health care provided for those in jail?
 - A: Yes. Recent improvement: hired County nurse who is on-site instead of relying on University hospital staff. More direct care/knowledge of medications, treatment history, etc. Crash cart on-hand in jail now (defibrillator, etc.)
 - Management of physical/mental health prescriptions is going well
 - Q: Does the newly hired nurse assist with drug withdrawal issues? Specifically for opioids?
 - Yes. Monitored closely. The department has done monitoring for a while, but now with a nurse we have an on-site resource for immediate evaluation vs. calling out to the hospital.
 - Q: Since the opening of Guidelink have you seen decrease in # of nights in jail?
 - A: Guidelink has not reduced the jail population. Has it reduced people coming to jail for minor offenses? We think so. Data is not available yet because it is so new.

● **Community Announcements & Open Discussion:**

- Bike Rodeo at Wetherby May 26, Thurs 5pm
 - Contact Bob Oppliger with questions at: Boboppliger@gmail.com
 - Neighborhood Leisure Bikeride signup:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b45ada72dabfd0-sdneighborhood1>
- IC Bike Rodeo: June 5th at Terry Trueblood park,
- Maddie Abd-Nameh: check out the programs at the Multicultural development center of Iowa (MDCI)
 - Stem explorations, Mindfulness room, Makerspace, Bike library, and more. Has many tools for building, sewing, 3D-printers, etc.
 - Bike library address: 1222 South gilbert ct.
 - Hours: afternoon/weekends. Makerspace is morning-4pm for the summer.
 - See website for more details: <https://www.mdciowa.org/>
- Grantwood garden needs gardeners. Contact Bob Oppliger Boboppliger@gmail.com
- Volunteers from SD needed for a bike safety study. Please contact Bob Oppliger with questions(Boboppliger@gmail.com)
 - Looking for 8-10 year olds to learn about bike safety. 3194674840, CPH-bikestudy@uiowa.edu
 - tinyurl.com/cph-bikestudy
- Juneteenth: Community discussion forum on "Blackness and Belonging in Iowa City"
 - Date: Thursday 16th. Trying to nail down locations. Be looking for more info/flyer.
 - Please contact Uche with questions at: uchechi-anomnachi@uiowa.edu
- Motor Engagement, Candidate forum, 2-4pm Purpose Center. Want candidates to address 2 issues each. List of issues for fed/state/county elections. Interested in input from SD, which issues are important to you? Contact Donna Hirst.
- Candidate Forum at the Purpose Place, October 15, 2022, 2:00-4:00
 - **South District resident input needed:**
The Johnson County Interfaith Coalition (JCIC) is hosting a Candidate Forum at the Purpose Place, October 15, 2022, 2:00-4:00. We expect around 8 candidates to

attend the Forum. Diedre DeJear and Christine Bohannon have already confirmed and candidates for national, state, and county offices are expected. Each candidate will be asked to give a general statement and then address two issues that they will get ahead of time.

JCIC has created the following lists of possible issues to be addressed. We are hoping for broad input from the South District to select the two most important issues for candidate comments.

Look over the list below and send your choices to Donna Hirst, donna-hirst@uiowa.edu.

1. National (5 minutes)
 1. Gun violence prevention
 2. Immigration
 3. Environmental Justice
 4. Racial Justice
 5. Wealth inequality
 6. Voting rights
2. State (3 minutes)
 1. Health care, especially reproductive care
 2. Education
 3. Income tax
 4. Social Services
 5. Environmental justice
 6. Jobs
 7. Gun violence prevention
3. County (3 minutes)
 1. Mental Health, especially youth in crisis
 2. Law Enforcement
 3. Affordable Housing
 4. Environmental justice
 5. Gun violence prevention
 6. Economic development
 7. Transportation

REMINDER: Next Neighborhood Meeting is **Tuesday, July 26, 2022 @ 6pm**. **OPEN DISCUSSION**

RESIDENTS: Please invite a friend/fellow neighborhood to the next Neighborhood Meeting, and if you have requests for future guest speakers or agenda topics please email southdistrictneighborhood@gmail.com

***Adjournment**

Thank you for coming, and see you again soon!

***Membership Vote Required**