

Community Council of Lehigh Acres

Monthly Meeting Minutes

New Image Ministries, 29 Homestead Road

September 21, 2009

I. **Call to Order: 6:30 PM** President

II. **Invocation** Michael Porzio

III. **Pledge of Allegiance**..... Damon Shelor

IV. **Establish Quorum**..... President

Present: Damon Shelor, Rick Anglickis, Karen Makowski, Tami Baker, Willard Baker, Edd Weiner.

Mike Anderson, Mike Bonacolta, Jere Carrick, Linda Carter, Diane Champion, Mike Cook, Debbie Derums, Keith Freeman, Ron Gogoi, Larry Gutridge, Ralph Hemmingway, Pamela Kaye, Barbara Kerby, Carlo Lane, Beth Love, Carl Moore, Jose Morillo, William Nottling, Michael Porzio, George Szymanski

Excused: Oliver DeWeever, Orville Hall, Bill Martin, Dendle Miller, Rose Oliverio, Larry Ruebeling, Jeff Spiro, Stanley Stine, Don Poidavin, Mohamed Yasin

V. **Approve Agenda**..... President

Passed unanimously: with modification to move Website information to XI A.
1st Linda Carter. 2nd Edd Weiner

VI. **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items: None**

VII. **Guest Speaker** Dep. Joshua Quaintance (LCSO)

Dep. Quaintance stated juvenile crime is mainly nighttime burglaries of cars off Joel Blvd. business burglaries are usually between 2am and 3am, and vandalism is graffiti. There are a little over 100 kids in Lehigh on probation. To get on a program for the kids, they have to usually commit multiple offenses before they are sent to a program. Gangs are not really active or organized in Lehigh. 25 arrests in 2 months.

Commissioner Mann-Industrial Development-: \$25m set aside for companies to come to Lee County. Comm. Mann is pushing to have Lee County use some of this money to purchase properties for multiple purposes and provide stimulus for businesses to get combined properties rezoned for commercial and industrial uses. The thought is to implement these initiatives. –while prices are so low. When this was tried in 2003 the prices started to climb and the idea went away. Now that prices are low, commissioners should try again. He has already presented to other Commissioners. He will keep us updated on the progress.

VIII. **Secretary Report**..... Secretary

August 17, 2009 minutes. Were approved with modifications. 1st Edd Weiner, 2nd Linda Carter.

IX. **Treasurer Report**..... Treasurer

Karen Makowski requested account be moved to Panther Bank. Balance \$799.13

1st Edd Weiner, 2nd Linda Carter, motion passed

X. Presidents' Comments

XI. Committee Reports:

A. First Vice President committees:

(Community Development/ Parks & Rec./Code Enforcement/Beautification/ Roads and Trans/ Health Ed. & Welfare)

a. Community Development-

b. Parks and Rec-Debbie Derums reported August and September very busy. Cross Country Event coming up this Saturday. New classes this year are Zunba Aerobics and Walking Class.

c. Code Enforcement-George Szymanski reported Westminster resumed code enforcement in September. Larry Gutridge said if vehicles are parked in right away something will be done if the Sheriff's office is called. Mike Anderson- 672 cases are self initiated, 692 cases closed, 2790 inspections and 284 signs. Year to date 61 graffiti cases-59 cases abated.

d. Beautification-none

e. Roads and Trans- Ron Gogoi passed out report during the meeting.

f. Health Ed. & Welfare- Pam Kaye state homelessness in Lehigh not discussed at Ft Myers Housing Development. Building 48 units in Lehigh. Pam is trying to find out how to apply for these units.

B. Second Vice President committees:

(Website / Publicity / Election & Bylaws/ Council Sponsored Events/ Fundraising & Membership/ Youth Council.)

a. Website- Linda Carter needs Bios

b. Election & Bylaws- Beth Love reported the new members application is on the website and will be in the newspapers and Lehigh Acres Live.

c. Council Sponsored Events: October 24 2009 40th birthday event will be held at Veterans Park from 10am-2pm
Relay for Life April 17 and April 18 at Lehigh Senior High School

d. Fundraising & Membership- Karen Makowski she needs pictures of the community and dates of event/meetings to put in the Beauty of Lehigh Calendar.

e. Youth council-none.

XII. Unfinished Business:

A. Signing of revised Bylaws- Karen Makowski said she will get the applications for new members to Beth Love when she gets them at the post office box.

B. Weed and Seed Project Update; L Gutridge- reported criminal activity down (127 crimes for the month, lowest in 2 ½ years). There will be a March, October 3 2009 at 2pm, near New Life Assembly for the Weed and Seed program.

C. Discussion of "Lift Up Lehigh" event.- Pam Kaye reported 12 agencies signed up already. There will be a costume parade at 1PM, costume contest at 1:30PM. Free food and birthday cake, and the Boy Scouts will be cooking the hot dogs. October 24, 2009 10AM-2PM.

D. Election process update.- Beth Love stated applications are on website and newspapers.

XIII. New Business:

A. Linda Carter-need bios. The election form is to be filled out and mailed.

B.

XIV. Citizen Concerns; For the Good of the Community

Citizen Frank LaRossa said the gangs are looking for recruits from Lehigh. The wannabes are worst than the gangs. Don't overlook the juveniles.

Citizen Robert Anderson had 4 comments:

- a. 1 camp off Beth Stacy has 6-10 people(homeless).**
- b. Veterans Parks Watch-Was told no due to liability issues for after closing of the park . Debbie Derums confirmed this information.**
- c. In 2003 a property switch, similar to what Commissioner Mann is suggesting, was suggested by Jim Fleming.**
- d. Security issue on the website with name and addresses of council members. Council voted to remove at least home addresses from the site**

XV. Board Member Comments.

Edd Weiner suggested only 1 person send out the Meeting minutes.

XVI. Adjournment before 8:30 PM

Next Executive Board meeting Monday October 5, 2009

Next Council Meeting Monday, October 19, 2009