



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes ANTI-GRAFFITI POLICY COMMITTEE

ALD. TONY ZIELINSKI, CHAIR

Ald. Robert Donovan, Vice-Chair

Ald. Terry Witkowski and Michael Miller

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Monday, January 12, 2009

10:30 AM

Room 301-B, City Hall

Meeting convened: 10:38 A.M.

Present 5 - Donovan, Witkowski, Zielinski, Miller and Pettigrew

1. Review and approval of the minutes of the September 15, 2008 Meeting

Ald. Witkowski moved for approval. There were no objections.

2. Department of Neighborhood Services update

Sharon Blando appeared for the department. She noted that complaints are down for this past year (Exhibit 1). The department received \$90,000 in community development block grant funds this year, which will assist in speedy clean-up and removal of graffiti. Cold months are very popular with graffiti taggers as the graffiti is harder to remove, which means it stays up longer. The department will begin monitoring the waste removal companies as they are beginning to not remove graffiti from their property. Dave Rotter, from National Ace Hardware, has offered the department coupons to hand out to people for paint purchase while Lamar Outdoor Advertising is running an anti-graffiti billboard for the city. Target Corporation also donated \$1,500 to the anti-graffiti program. The department also got a letter of apology from a tagger as well as thank-yous via e-mail.

The Benedict Center has cleaned up over 2,000 garbage carts in the past year. The Center does have a defined area in which it works, but would be willing to remove graffiti from other areas upon request. The Center is currently trying to find other work they can do at this time, including non-graffiti work. The chair recommended they contact aldermen to find senior citizens who are unable to remove their snow.

3. Department of Public Works update

Paul Novotny appeared on behalf of the department. The department did some consolidation internally, which should assist in graffiti removal. He noted that with the cold it is harder to remove graffiti, although they can remove some based upon the locations of the graffiti and types of paint used.

4. Municipal Court update

Kristine Hinrichs appeared on behalf of the department. The number of cases that came before Municipal Court in 2008 was about half than in previous years. The Court primarily deals with possession of graffiti paraphernalia, rather than the individuals who are caught in the act of graffiti. She had previously provided a report to all members (Exhibit 2).

5. Milwaukee Police Department update

No-one from the police department was present.

6. Milwaukee Christian Center update

No-one from the Milwaukee Christian Center was present.

7. Review and approval of the 2008 annual report

Ald. Donovan moved for approval. There were no objections.

8. Set next meeting date and agenda

March 16th at 10:30 A.M.

An item will be added to the next agenda to allow individuals from the business improvement districts to speak.

Meeting adjourned: 11:02 A.M.

Linda M. Elmer

Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety in the web-casting archives found at www.milwaukee.gov/channel25.