

**Minutes - February 5, 2008, 5 - 6:30 p.m. - Adopted on March 6, 2008**

**Safe Takoma Board of Directors**

Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B

6856 Eastern Avenue, NW #314

Washington, D.C. 20012

**Present:**

Seth Grimes, President

Faith Wheeler, Vice President

Andy Kelemen, Treasurer

Sara Green, Secretary

Natasha Wilkins, Board Member

**Votes and Actions**

1. As per Mr. Kelemen's motion, the Board adopted the minutes for the November 16, 2007 and January 22, 2008 meetings, as amended. Ms. Wheeler abstained.

There were three changes to the January 22 minutes. On page one, Action 2, the word "trenches" is corrected to "tranches." And the last sentence of that paragraph is corrected to say: "The payments would be March 1, July 1, and October 1, with monthly reports." On page two, in the second discussion point, the sentence is corrected to say: "Council Member Wright asked that the course be spread out into two-hour segments to make it easier for those with 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. jobs to participate."

2. The Board unanimously adopted Mr. Grimes motion on the Safe Takoma's possible role with the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department's "Holla At Me" Male Open Forum Group. The adopted motion is that Safe Takoma will encourage the Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County (CRCMC) and the City of Takoma Park Recreation Department to work together in the "Holla At Me" Program, and, if necessary, to get approval for Safe Takoma funding to help promote that participation.

The vote followed a discussion initiated by Mr. Kelemen about the City program. Mr. Kelemen suggested that CRCMC could lead one of the "Holla At Me" events so that conflict resolution could be added to the group's discussion topics. Mr. Kelemen distributed a "Holla At Me" schedule, which included sessions devoted to sex, the dangers of street life, money, and race relations. Mr. Kelemen noted that CRCMC would need to be paid to cover staff time at the program.

3. In a unanimous vote, the Board adopted Ms. Green's motion to appoint Ms. Joy Austin-Lane to the Safe Takoma Advisory Committee.

4. In a unanimous vote, the Board approved Mr. Grimes' motion to approve the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Takoma DC Neighborhood Association (TDCNA). The MOU provides for up to \$1,200 to go to TDCNA to cover part of the cost

(more)

of its newsletter so that the newsletter can continue to have crime information on it. Part of the money will also go to support the group's Orange Hat Crime Patrol program. Mr. Grimes reported that he recently met with TDCNA President Paul Schwartz and Treasurer Mark Headings. Mr. Grimes noted that TDCNA's relationship with Safe Takoma is changing now that Safe Takoma has obtained its nonprofit status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

### **Discussions and Reports**

1. Mr. Grimes reported on his February 1 meeting with MPD 4<sup>th</sup> District Commander Linda Brown and City of Takoma Park Police Department Police Chief Ronald A. Ricucci. Ms. Wheeler also attended that meeting. Mr. Grimes distributed expenditure reports to the two police officials.

He also said that Safe Takoma Board Members will

\* provide more reporting and more detail in reports.

\* schedule a follow-up meeting with the two police officials to provide more information and discuss Safe Takoma's next steps, including hiring staff and beginning the whistle program.

Mr. Grimes also said that Commander Brown and Chief Ricucci authorized Safe Takoma's February and March 2008 HIPP conflict resolution training programs.

2. Mr. Kelemen reviewed the draft HIPP registration form distributed by Ms. Wheeler and suggested that it be revised to include the participants' agreement to have their names published in reports and to participate in follow-up and program evaluation. He also suggested adding a place for a parent/guardian to sign to give minors permission to attend.

3. Mr. Grimes also reported on a crime prevention training program he attended with Natasha Wilkins and Roz Grigsby, of the Old Town Business Association. The program was sponsored by those affiliated with the Maryland Main Street Program.

4. Ms. Wheeler reported on the upcoming February and March 2008 HIPP Conflict Resolution Training Program. Everyone agreed to help with transportation, should participants need to be picked up from the Takoma Metro Station or have other issues.

5. The group discussed when to hold the next Advisory Committee meetings, but did not determine a date. March 12 or 20 and June 25 were suggested.

--- Submitted by Sara Green, Secretary