SCRC Meeting Minutes

January 23rd, 2009

In Attendance:

Members: Carole Katz, Thad Boggs, Susan Mosley-Howard, Bobbe Burke, Lane Clegg, Jung-Han Chen, Jim Squance, Amy Macechko, John Green, and Alysia Fischer.

Non-Members: Amy Numrich, Lauren Salino, Karen Murray, and McLean Beto.

Call to order

Public Comment:

No public comment

Introductions:

As SCRC has a few new members this semester, introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes:

At the start of the meeting there were not enough voting members to approve the minutes. It was going to be put off until next meeting, but near the end enough members had arrived and the minutes were approved from the December 5th, 2008 SCRC meeting.

Off-Campus Burglaries-Sgt. Squance:

Sgt. Jim Squance told the commission that over break there were 12 residential burglaries, which is a high number, as there are usually only 2 or 3. However, there were 9 in one night in the Oberlin Ct. /Poplar St. area, which all seem to be related. Small items were taken such as alcohol, loose cash, food, and iPods. OPD is working on the theory that these burglaries were done by juveniles. All but one of these houses that were burgled did not have a Vacant House Card on file. Over 360 students/residents did fill out a Vacant House Card, which Sgt. Squance reported was a high number. Sgt. Squance also reported that OPD officers checked these homes at least one time per day. He also made mention of the fact that there were very few vehicles left on the city's streets, and that the 72 hour parking ordinance was followed to a high degree. Carole Katz asked Sgt. Squance if all of the burglaries were student residences. Sgt. Squance responded no, that one was a full time resident of Oxford. Thad Boggs asked Sgt. Squance if the number of Vacant House Cards filled out was high compared to the years past, and Sgt. Squance said yes, and that each shift of officers had a list to check on their particular shift. Carole Katz pointed out that she witnessed an officer coming through an alley and checking houses, and that it was very comforting to know they were checking over the break. Bobbe Burke asked Sgt. Squance if a big push should be made over Spring Break to fill out a Vacant House Card, and Sgt. Squance said yes.

Off-Campus Information Sessions for Sophomore Residency Curriculum-Bobbe Burke:

Bobbe Burke spoke to SCRC about the two pieces of information currently being worked on for the Sophomore Residency Program. At the end of freshman year a piece will go out with information on how to find a place to live off-campus. In the spring of sophomore year a corresponding piece will go out to inform students of all of the 'how to's' that are involved in moving off-campus. The first piece is done and the second piece is in the works. The next step is to figure out how to present these programs to the 38 residence halls. Bobbe is hoping that the Off-Campus senators and IFC will be involved. There is also a need to establish a 'training the trainer' model for people who will be participating in the presentation teams. John Green asked the commission how many fraternities had applied and have been approved to allow their members to live off-campus sophomore year. Susan Mosley-Howard said all but 4 or 6, and they are just working some things out and will probably be applying at a later date. Lauren Salino asked about commuter students, and if this program applied to them as well. Susan Mosley-Howard said that they can apply for an exemption, and that there is also the commuter center in Shriver where they can get support and information. She pointed out that less than 1% of first and second year students are commuters. Bobbe also brought up the fact that there will be a few niche populations to cater to in regards to this program, such as athletes and international students. We might need to think of ways to specifically target their needs. Susan Mosley-Howard pointed out that one of the reasons this is such an important program is that it will also benefit landlords, who will have more informed residents. Carole Katz said that this initiative is supported by the Oxford community and viewed as very beneficial to the City. Bobbe told the group that the Off-Campus Housing Fair will be held on September 14th, 2009 in the Heritage Room, and that all students will be encouraged to come and be informed. Carole Katz asked if SCRC might want to become involved in the Off-Campus Housing Fair, and Bobbe thought that was a good idea, and maybe a table set up or a presentation from an SCRC member is something to explore further.

OXIO Off-Campus Roommate Finder-Thad Boggs:

Thad Boggs informed the commission about a new online 'Craigslist' type of service that OTO has been working on to help students find roommates and fill leases. This service will be available by sometime in March and was created from the ground up at Miami. Thad said that it was necessary to build internally because they wanted to be able to cater specifically to the needs of the MU students. Carole Katz asked how students would be able to access this page. Thad said there would be a link from the

ASG website, and students would have to log in using their MU username and password. He also pointed out that posts would be approved and monitored by an administrative team, and that ad's would run for 3 weeks at a time, but they will be an option to renew. Bobbe Burke made the comment that she thought this service was going to be very helpful to students.

Park Place Advertisement in Tuesday's Student (Apartments so close to Uptown, stumbling home is a breeze"):

Karen Murray talked to the commission about the above ad, and said that the Coalition for a Healthy Community has sent a letter of concern to Park Place in regards to the wordage used and the message this sends to students (stumbling.) Carole Katz commented that she would be curious to hear the response from Park Place to this letter, and John Green asked who owns Park Place. Bobbe Burke told him Ned Helser was the owner of Park Place Realty. Bobbe also asked the student members and guests what their thoughts were on this ad. McLean Beto commented that he didn't often read the ads in the Student, but from a marketing perspective he could understand why they had chosen to use the innuendo they did. Thad Boggs agreed, but also stated that it's worthwhile to remind Park Place that this sends a bad message to students. Karen Murray suggested that a 2nd letter might get their attention. Lauren Salino asked if it was a possibility to send a letter directly to the Student. Susan Mosley-Howard pointed out that the Miami Student is copied on the letter that the Coalition for a Healthy Community has sent. John Green asked if anyone had called them or spoke to them in person. Karen Murray thought that a friendly letter was a good first step, and then other approaches could be considered if there is either no response or a negative response. She also pointed out that the Coalition would be willing to do that. John Green said he thought a face to face meeting might clear things up and be a way to solve this. Carole Katz asked the group about an idea SCRC had in the past to include landlords in a discussion with the commission, and wondered if now might be a time to pursue that idea. Bobbe Burke pointed out that the daughter of Ned Helser might be a good choice to join SCRC, and that she would be happy to call her and voice our concerns. Bobbe pointed out that renting must be down, and that these apartments are older and not the most desirable place to live, so that might be what prompted them to use the phrase they did. She pointed out also that this ad had the feel as many house sign's, and this is counter acting what SCRC and the community is trying to do. Carole asked if Bobbe and Karen Murray would update the commission on the responses they get from Park Place.

General Announcements:

Carole Katz brought up an article she read in the Student regarding bike lanes. ASG voted no to the current bike lane plan, and PTA has approved it. Lauren Salino said that she and Dori Behir were working together on this initiative, and that student senate did not endorse the bike lanes on Spring St. because it would require taking out about 100 parking spots. Alysia Fischer voiced her disappointment that this might not happen because of 100 parking spots vs. the greater good of the community. Lauren Salino agreed and said that the holdup is the potential loss of parking. Jung Han Chen pointed out that council has not closed the door on this, they just need more information. Bobbe Burke suggested that MU might consider one floor of their parking garage to be free parking, that this might help from a MU staff perspective, as employees do not want to have to pay to park.

Thad Boggs mentioned that SCRC's meeting minutes from December 5th had made it into City Council's packet.

Carole Katz asked Thad the status of the Patterson Ave. speeding and need for a crosswalk situation, which was a topic on SCRC's agenda last semester. Thad said it is being worked out currently and he will bring the information back to SCRC at a later date.

John Green announced that the Rotary Club is planning a weekend of recycling in the spring. He wondered if they could do any sort of collaborating with SCRC on this project. Bobbe Burke thought that there were several ways these groups could work together and suggested thinking about this and discussing it more in the future.

Jung Han Chen announced that there is an increase in the numbers of bed bugs recently. Students are having an elevated number of them, and bed bugs are a health issue. NIC is working on this to find a solution to this problem.

Karen Murray announced that the Comprehensive Student Health Initiative has recently been looking at nutrition on and off-campus and it was suggested that an on-campus farmer's market may be beneficial to students. Karen stated that she felt there was a market for this, but she was looking for potential partners to take on this initiative. John Green thought that going directly to the vendor's that now do the Uptown Markets might be a good place to start. Alysia Fischer thought it would be beneficial to educate the on campus student about the existing markets. John Green offered to ask Paula Green to think about this idea and possibly do something as a pilot. Carole Katz also pointed out that Full Moon gives a discounted rate to students.

Bobbe Burke told the group that the Parking and Transportation Survey that went out in the Walk About packets is not getting a good response. It will be attached to these minutes to send along again to any list serve our members have access to.

Meeting Adjourned

The next SCRC meeting will be help February 6th at 2pm in the LCNB Community Room.

A regular meeting of the Oxford City Council was called to order by Mayor Prue Dana on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Those members present were Ken Bogard, Kate Currie, Doug Ross, Richard Keebler, Alysia Fischer and Greig Rutherford.

Staff members present: Mr. Doug Elliott, City Manager; Mr. Mike Dreisbach, Service Director; Mr. Steve Schwein, Police Chief; Mr. John Detherage, Fire Chief; Mr Joe Newlin, Finance Director; Mr. Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director; Mr. Alan Kyger, Economic Development Director; Ms. Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director; Mr. Steve McHugh, Law Director and Ms. Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G) for the purpose of discussing (1) appointments to Boards and Commissions, (2) property acquisition and (3) pending litigation. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Ross, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Rutherford, Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Ms. Fischer, Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Fischer moved to return from Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Bogard, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Ross, Ms. Fischer, Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dana requested the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Currie moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROCLAMATION 'AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN CHAIN DAY'

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation and advised she presented it yesterday while she participated in the event.

PROCLAMATION 'MIAMI UNIVERSITY BICENTENNIAL CHARTER DAY'

Mayor Dana read the Proclamation and presented it to Mr. Jerome Conley, Chair of Miami University's Bicentennial Committee.

PRESENTATION MIAMI UNIVERSITY BICENTENNIAL

Mr. Jerome U. Conley, advised he had for Council a commemorative magnet which depicted the Bicentennial logo designed by a Miami student as well as the Bicentennial website printed on it. Mr. Conley also noted he brought Council a brochure with regard to a book being published in honor of the Bicentennial titled Miami University 1809-2009 Bicentennial Perspective. Mr. Conley noted the university felt they had to pay homage to the Miami Indian Tribe's contributions to the area and did so with an exhibit at Miami's Art Museum from September through December 2008. Mr. Conley highlighted the numerous events which would take place during the year with the kick-off being Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at Millett Hall which was free and open to the public.

Mayor Dana noted she was glad the community was able to participate in Miami's Bicentennial events which would set a wonderful stage for the City's Bicentennial in 2010. Mayor Dana thanked Mr. Conley for all of his efforts and hard work.

Mr. Conley commended City Council and staff for the road clearing efforts as a result of the recent snow storms.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Ms. Fischer moved to appoint Richard Nault and Patrick Meade to the Community Relations Commission for terms expiring June 30, 2012 and Dr. Molly Emmert to the Butler County Board of Health for a term expiring March 1, 2012. Mr. Keebler seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Thad Boggs, 109 Ardmore Drive, Secretary, Off Campus Affairs, advised he wanted to share with Council and the public the efforts being undertaken to alleviate problems with cars obstructing snow routes during snow emergencies. Mr. Boggs noted since the beginning of the school year he and Bobbe Burke and the Office of Off Campus Affairs had been educating students with regard to snow routes and to have a back-up plan in the event of a snow emergency. Mr. Boggs advised for the first time students living off campus were being contacted by members of Associated Student Government as weather events were developing, taking place and during the aftermath. Mr. Boggs noted he hoped this effort would start a downward trend in problems related to parking during weather events. Mr. Boggs noted his feeling this was an important tool and would be used for a variety of community related communications.

Mayor Dana thanked Mr. Boggs noting this vehicle of providing information would make a difference to the Street Department in their road clearing efforts.

Mr. Greig Rutherford, advised 'there is a couple of recent articles in the news concerning the well adjacent to Four Mile Creek and State Route 73. The issue at hand concerns an easement. It appears when you read the article that I had suggested that Mr. Sherman was possibly taking advantage of the City. That wasn't my intention. I want to correct the record right away because I want the public to be aware of what the difficulties are. The EPA wants us to protect our water source and with the EPA desiring the City of Oxford to protect that water source we need a 300 foot radius around that well. We need to secure an easement. Is the City between a rock and a hard place? The City is between a rock and a hard place. We need an easement. What we did is the City actually requested an appraisal of the affected property be undertaken for approximately 4 acres and I questioned some of the aspects of that appraisal and I think that's my duty to the citizens of Oxford to question aspects of that appraisal. Now once the appraisal was completed the City approached Mr. Sherman and offered $61,500.00. Mr. Sherman to correct the record did not place the City in a difficult position rather Mr. Sherman simply accepted the City's offer. Character assassination is not something I engage in and I understand Mr. Sherman was quite concerned about the way some of the articles were written. I appreciate the opportunity to make sure the public is aware of what actually transpired. We need this easement to protect the citizens of Oxford's water source and Mr. Sherman is a party to this easement and has expressed an interest in going through with this easement with the City of Oxford. I want the public and Mr. Sherman to know there were no character assassinations and that this is simply a necessary thing. $61,500.00 seems like a lot of money and I can have questions about the appraisal itself but I don't have any questions or doubts about Mr. Sherman's role in this. That's what I need to clarify for the citizens of Oxford.'

Mr. Jerome Conley, referred to the proposed stimulus package before the US Congress and inquired if Council had taken any actions to ensure there would be dollars available to the City for projects on the cusp. Mr. Conley also inquired if the City was in partnership with the School District to ensure the new High School would be included on that list.

Mr. Elliott advised the City was following very closely what was happening at the federal level. Mr. Elliott noted the City had submitted a number of lists of possible projects, one in conjunction with Miami University that ranged from street and highway projects to water and sewer projects and other public improvements. Mr. Elliott advised other lists were submitted through various associations such as the Water Works Association and the Public Works Association. Mr. Elliott noted until the bill was passed it was unknown how the funds were going to reach state and local governments.

Ms. Fischer noted as a private citizen she called the state senators today and governor to encourage this process to move forward. Ms. Fischer noted any private citizen could do the same.

CONSENT AGENDA

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 20, 2009 City Council Work Session. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

Minutes of the January 20, 2009 City Council Meeting. (Mary Ann Eaton, Deputy Clerk of Council)

REPORTS

Report regarding the January 7, 2009 Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 13, 2009 Planning Commission Meeting. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Report regarding the January 22, 2009 Recreation Board Meeting. (Gail Brahier, Parks and Recreation Director)

Ms. Currie moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Bogard seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION
SETTLE CASE NO.
CV 2006 01 0140

A Resolution No. 4408 authorizing the City Manager to deposit additional funds in the amount of $36,788.00 with the Butler County Clerk of Courts for the settlement of *City of Oxford v. Donald G. Rile Trustee,* Case No. CV 2006 01 0140 for a total not to exceed the amount of $45,000.00. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach summarized his staff report on page 20 of the agenda noting with the settlement of this case only one case would remain unresolved for Phase II of the US 27 North project.

Ms. Fischer moved to adopt Resolution No. 4408. Mr. Bogard seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

RESOLUTION
AMEND BZA RULES
OF PROCEDURE

A Resolution No. 4409 amending the Board of Zoning Appeals Rules of Procedures. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised the proposed legislation would update the Board of Zoning Appeals Rules of Procedure and provide consistency between them and the Zoning Code.

Mr. Rutherford noted his feeling the proposed legislation was long overdue.

Ms. Fischer noted a typo on page 30 of the agenda, under item F.

Mr. Keebler moved to adopt Resolution No. 4409. Ms. Currie seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCES
FIRST READING

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3033. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 1 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2009. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin summarized his staff report on page 33 of the agenda.

Ms. Fischer noted the $14,700 refund pertained only to repair and maintenance of water lines and could not be used for other repairs at the mobile home park.

Mr. Keebler inquired if no repairs had been made to water lines at the mobile home park since 1997 and Mr. Dreisbach advised repairs had been made but funds were not used from this account to pay for them.

ORDINANCE
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 3033. Supplemental Budget Ordinance Number 2 To Make Supplemental Appropriations For Fiscal Year 2009. (Joe Newlin, Finance Director)

Mr. Newlin summarized his staff report on page 35 of the agenda.

There were no questions or comments regarding the proposed legislation.

ORDINANCES
SECOND READING

ORDINANCE
EASEMENT AGREEMENT

An Ordinance No. 3042 Authorizing The City Manager To Purchase A Permanent Easement Over Approximately 4.09 Acres Of Land Owned By The Robert G. Sherman Trust At A Cost Not To Exceed $61,500.00, For The Purpose Of Obtaining Compliance With Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Regulations Regarding The Reopening And Operation Of A Well Field Near Trenton-Oxford Road And Four Mile Creek. (Mike Dreisbach, Service Director)

Mr. Dreisbach thanked Dr. Sherman for working with the City in obtaining the easement. Mr. Dreisbach noted it was very important to protect this water resource and it was important to the ratepayers as the people who supported the water rates in the City. Mr. Dreisbach reminded the ratepayers they were not solely shouldering the burden for this project as the City obtained a $49,900 grant from the Miami Conservancy District making the out of pocket cost approximately $2,800 per acre. Mr. Dreisbach advised the City also received a $250,000 grant from the Public Works Commission for the rehabilitation of the well. Mr. Dreisbach noted the savings in electricity by not having to pump water from the Seven Mile well field. Mr. Dreisbach noted he would like to see the project completed before the high demand for water occurred in August and September.

Mr. Jim Robinson, addressed Council on behalf of Dr. Sherman. Mr. Robinson thanked Mr. Rutherford for his comments earlier in the meeting. Mr. Robinson noted unfortunately members of the public did construe some of the articles in the press to imply that Mr. Sherman was somehow taking advantage of the City in this transaction. Mr. Robinson advised Mr. Sherman was approached by Mr. Dreisbach and members of the City with the appraised value of the property and accepted the offer without negotiation. Mr. Robinson advised the negotiations with Mr. McHugh regarding the wording of the easement agreement had been nothing but professional and the agreement was satisfactory to both parties. Mr. Robinson advised Mr. Sherman wanted to congratulate Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for securing the grant for approximately 80% of the cost for the easement.

Mr. Keebler advised the detailed report from the appraiser was very well done and made it very clear that this was a fair price for what the City was gaining. Mr. Keebler noted Council should move forward with securing the easement.

Ms. Fischer thanked Mr. Dreisbach and his staff for their hard work on this project.

Mr. Bogard echoed Ms. Fischer's comment and thanked Mr. Sherman for his efforts to benefit the citizens of Oxford.

Mr. Rutherford advised he met with Mr. Dreisbach and discussed the Ordinance and language of the easement agreement and how the appraisal was assembled. Mr. Rutherford thanked Mr. Dreisbach for providing Council with the appraisers report. Mr. Rutherford noted the City should move forward with securing the easement.

Mayor Dana thanked all of those involved for their hard work on the proposed Ordinance.

Me. Bogard moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3042. Mr. Rutherford seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Ms. Fischer, Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ORDINANCE
FINAL SUBDIVISION RE-PLAT

An Ordinance No. 3043 Approving The Final Subdivision Re-Plat Of Juniper Hill Subdivision, Section Two. (Jung-Han Chen, Community Development Director)

Mr. Chen advised he had no new information to report with regard to the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Chen noted staff was looking at how to handle certain re-plats administratively.

Mr. Jim Robinson noted he was substituting for Ms. Jones this evening. Mr. Robinson noted the applicant appreciated the work Mr. Chen and his staff did in preparing the re-plat. Mr. Robinson offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Keebler moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3043. Ms. Fischer seconded. The Ordinance was adopted by the following roll call:

AYE: Mr. Keebler, Mr. Ross, Mr. Rutherford, Mr. Bogard, Ms. Currie, Ms. Fischer,
Ms. Dana (7)

NAY: None (0)

ABS: None (0)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Bogard noted Ms. Brahier sent a memo to the City Manager in December recommending the 4^{th} of July events be limited to one day instead of two which would result in saving $4,000.00. Mr. Bogard noted the Recreation Board endorsed the recommendation of hosting all of the events on July 3^{rd}. Mr. Bogard inquired if Council would consent to the idea as well. All members of Council were in favor of the change.

Mr. Bogard advised he attended the OKI meeting recently and Mike Juengling was elected Second Vice President. Mr. Bogard noted he remained on the Executive Committee representing Southwest Ohio Cities with populations under 40,000.

Mr. Elliott thanked Council for their input regarding the 4^{th} of July events and thanked Ms. Brahier for recommending the cost saving idea.

Mr. Elliott updated Council regarding a meeting held January 29^{th} with school officials concerning the new high school project.

Mr. Elliott noted he asked for a Work Session with the Oxford Township Trustees on February 17^{th} before the regular meeting to discuss Fire and EMS funding. Mr. Elliott advised Trustee Gary Salmon was not able to attend. Mr. Elliott suggested a meeting take place with the Council sub-committee of Mr. Ross, Mr. Keebler and Mr. Bogard along with himself and the Fire Chief to iron out an agreement and then report back to Council. Mr. Keebler advised his feeling the sub-committee should meet first and bring potential solutions to Council as a whole. Ms. Fischer agreed and noted the report Council received on funding options should be made available to the press and the public. Mr. Elliott advised he would provide the report to the Oxford Press, Miami Student, and he would have it posted on the City's website. Mr. Bogard advised the current agreement dated back to 1980. Mr. Rutherford noted he felt the sub-committee should meet and report back to Council.

Ms. Brahier thanked Council for considering her recommendation to consolidate the 4^{th} of July events into one day.

Ms. Currie noted she provided Council with information regarding the City of Oxford's Bicentennial Committee's work to date. Ms. Currie advised the committee would try to solidify dates for Bicentennial events at their meeting on March 12, 2009. Ms. Currie noted the committee met every other month on the second Wednesday at the Lane Public Library at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Currie encouraged members of the public to attend and offer suggestions regarding the City's Bicentennial which was in 2010. Ms. Currie noted the committee was looking at ways to involve as many people from the Oxford community as possible in the Bicentennial events and were looking at ways for people to come together as a community to celebrate the town. Ms. Currie advised the Bicentennial kick-off would take place on New Year's Eve 2009 at the Community Arts Center noting the Butler County Bicentennial Bell would be in Oxford for the occasion. Ms. Currie outlined some of the proposed events which revolved around the seasons.

Mayor Dana thanked the committee for their efforts.

Mr. Keebler asked City staff to look into more ecologically friendly ways to distribute information Council received on a weekly basis. Mr. Keebler noted a lot of information was a 'one-time' read which ended up in his recycle bin. Mr. Keebler suggested emailing reports to Council although paper copies of Council agendas were still needed. Mr. Keebler also suggested making fewer extra agenda copies. Ms. Fischer noted some members of the public did want a paper copy of agendas to make notes on etc. Mr. Elliott advised staff would initiate some paper saving initiatives which he would provide to Council in a report.

Ms. Fischer referred to a letter to the editor in the Oxford press concerning what the City was doing in regard to the mobile home park. Ms. Fischer noted the City had done quite a lot there and noted her feeling a presentation should be given at some point with regard to what the City had done and what the City could and could not do on private property. Mayor Dana advised the Housing Advisory Commission could address some of the issues involving the mobile home park. Mr. Bogard suggested staff respond in the newspaper which would reach 4,000 subscribers.

Mr. Bogard suggested making fewer copies of the City's Budget and CAFR. Mr. Elliott advised the City had cut back on those copies which were also available on line.

Mr. Rutherford noted several Boards and Commissions had vacancies including the Environmental Commission which had 2 vacancies. Mr. Rutherford encouraged interested parties to apply noting all of the vacancies were listed on the City's website.

Mr. Rutherford encouraged members of the public to contact their representatives and senators with regard to the federal stimulus package.

Mr. Ross advised there would be three openings on Council this year.

Mayor Dana thanked the students who gave the presentation on Bike Lanes two weeks ago for responding to some of Council's questions.

Mayor Dana thanked City staff for their efforts regarding water main breaks and ice and snow removal.

Mayor Dana referred to letters from Mr. Ed Jackson requesting that Council keep a potential Westside Fire Station on their horizon. Mayor Dana noted she responded to Mr. Jackson letting him know Council had not made final decisions yet on potential locations for new facilities but they were very cognizant of the need for a Westside Fire Station.

ADJOURN

Ms. Fischer moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Ms. Currie seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.