

Place this on the Park Board agenda

-----Original Message-----

From: SueWiz@aol.com [mailto:SueWiz@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2009 12:23 PM

To: Jeff Jorgenson

Cc: Brian Tungate

Subject: Re: Hart Park

Last evening, about 7PM, I went by Hart and drove through the lot. There were groups of kids hanging around the skate park. There were two groups of girls standing in the parking lot near the skate park. I drove through the lot without any problem. I went around the block then drove past again. There still was no problem, just kids using the skate park. Sue

In a message dated 5/4/2009 9:55:15 A.M. Central Daylight Time, jjorgens@ci.menasha.wi.us writes:

Thanks Sue. It really makes no difference to me if the hoops stay down or go back up I just wanted to know if neighbors could see a difference. It is quite likely that the Park Board will have quite a few voices suggesting the hoops be returned so I assume it is OK if I share this and other emails with the Park Board to further illustrate her point of view. Ideally it would be nice for her and a few neighbors to be at the meeting to speak to the Board on their observations. I am trying to make contact with Mike Kading as well since he had tried to strat the last neighborhood watch in the area.

Jeff

-----Original Message-----

From: SueWiz@aol.com [mailto:SueWiz@aol.com]

Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2009 7:55 PM

To: Jeff Jorgenson

Subject: Re: Hart Park

Jeff -

My 'informant' (who doesn't want her name used unless it is necessary so I will try to accommodate her) says she has noticed that the traffic around the park is not as heavy as it had been. She said she saw that the hoops were down and, while she tries very hard not to be racist, it was gang-type people who had been hanging around there who are not there anymore.

She said that from the way these people had been dressed and acted, she thought it was all gang-related. She said they used to hang out in the parking lot of the Family Dollar and now there isn't that activity there. They used to threaten and bully people at the bathroom building, at the park area and at the store, including people just going in and out of the store. They used to steal things inside the store and throw things through the windows. She said she has noticed a WHOLE lot of this type of activity has ceased.

She said these kids (whom she suspected were from out of town, out of Menasha) used to push people out in front of cars in the Family Dollar lot, used to run in front of cars, or would hang out in groups in the lot so cars coming in or trying to leave the lot at the store couldn't even park or leave. They were very intimidating. That type of stuff has stopped. Even those girls found somewhere else to go.

She also said, "I don't care what kind of mentoring someone thinks they are doing to those kids there. It's not going to work because they are hard core. They are gone now and I hope they stay gone." They were using the basketball court there as a cover-up for what really was going on.

She said she has gone to the store about 5 times in the last 8 days so she knows what she is talking about.

She will talk to neighbors and kids and to the store personnel. She will see what their impression is and will call me back. I'll let you know.

Sue

In a message dated 5/1/2009 4:26:51 P.M. Central Daylight Time, jjorgens@ci.menasha.wi.us writes:

Sue,

I realize you are not on the Park Board anymore but you had been vocal initially with your source so I want to let you know what I am observing on the sideline. At the last Board meeting the Park Board suggested we take down the basketball hoops to thwart the drug trafficking that was being associated with the court users. The patrol seems to think that this has really cut the crowds at the park and made things more manageable. The Vets watch also indicated recently that they too believe this has calmed the problems in this park.

The skatepark attendant that likes to play basketball says it has had no effect at all on the activities of the park. Could you ask your informant to relay her opinions before the next Park Board meeting on May 11. All we are trying to do is move the problems so if it is not working we can certainly recommend putting the hoops back up. I know it would make Stan much happier.

Thanks for any help you can provide from the neighbors in your district.

Jeff Jorgenson

Menasha PD

"Press On"

Nothing in the world will take the place of persistence.

Talent will not; nothing is more common than the unsuccessful person with talent.

Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.

Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.

Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan "press on" has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.

...Calvin Coolidge

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