



University of Houston  
Safety and Security Committee

Minutes  
September 3, 2009

1. Recommendations for President's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Safety and Security
  - Chief Davis discussed the possible recommendations that the task force will be making to the President. Some of the items up for recommendation are; wrought iron fencing, kiosks at various locations on campus, limiting access to parking lots after hours, fencing around parking lots, additional cameras in the parking lots, card access across campus and additional FTE's (although not a priority).
  - Many of the recommendations may take time due to the arrival of METRO's light rail.
  - The light rail will change the cross over's, limit access points and change a number of lanes.
  - Another obstacle will be the new parking garages. Until the plans are set on the parking garage locations it will be difficult to move forward with any changes in several of the parking lots.
2. Address Light Rail Safety Concerns
  - Metro posted signs in and on the properties of the homes on Wheeler in an effort to indicate that METRO is making progress with the light rail and that the homes are not abandoned.
  - Student Government Representatives mentioned that the student responded positively to the posting of the signs.
3. SafeWalk Program Update
  - Micha Kenfield discussed the Safe Walk program with the group. He indicated that he is working with different groups on campus for participation in the program. The students will escort other student to different locations on campus. Without the student participation the program will not last. The program will be based out of the library until it grows. It will also be designed as a pilot program in the beginning in an effort to gain support as time progresses.

4. Fall 2009 Walk in the Dark
  - The Student Government Association (SGA) representatives expressed that they would be looking at coordinating the Walk for a non SGA meeting date. It was discussed that the best possible time for the meeting is in fact after a SGA meeting so that all the members can participate in the walk. Micha said he would share that information with SGA.
  - The Walk in the Dark has been scheduled for evening of October 14, 2009.
5. Emergency Management Updates
  - Cell Phone registration for students, faculty and staff is up. This will allow more individuals to be notified in the event of an emergency on campus.
6. *Clery Act* Reporting Information and Notification
  - Chief Davis briefly discussed the Clery Act and its requirements on reporting crime.
  - This year more changes have been made with the Security Alerts in an effort to ease the minds of the campus community. Many are still concerned about the notifications but Chief Davis explained the law to the committee and that for non reporting it can cost of to \$20,000 per violation.
  - Chief Davis urged the committee to review the FBI Uniform Crime Report table 9 for a complete comprehensive picture of crime on campus. While the two reports are helpful, the FBI report contains more relevant information.
7. Group Discussion Items
  - Fire alarm procedures as they relate to handicapped patrons were discussed. Chief Davis said that he would have Bob Bowden discuss these procedures more at length next time.
  - There were some concerns about the number of Police Officers directing traffic. Chief Davis explained the different traffic control requirements with the group.
  - The Department of Public Safety CFI table was mentioned. The group liked seeing uniformed personnel out participating in CFI and with parking/traffic.
  - The New Uniforms were mentioned. Committee members were able to see the DPS employees all over campus with the new high visibility uniforms.
  - There are some sidewalk issues around Calhoun Lofts. Lawrence Schulze said he would enlist his students to check out the issues and report back with some recommendations.
  - Cell phone/testing among cart drivers was discussed. Members of the campus community are upset and concerned with the cart drivers who are not paying attention to stirring the cart. This matter is being looked into.
  - The issue of locations within a lot was brought up. The group would like to see a number/letter system designed for display within a lot to determine your location within that lot. Giving the area a B6 location marker or a "Blue" marker will help individuals identify their location.