

Sgt. Christie Wood discusses City Council candidate Dan Gookin's response to the question posed by Coeur d'Alene police officers re: the time he called her "Sgt. Cupcake":

The question to Mr. Gookin was not posed by me but I did ask him a follow up question because his response was that he did not call me a snake, rather he said I should "not act like a snake". That is how he remembers it but I remember it as "You madame are a snake". Regardless, he apologized for it soon after it happened and I accepted his apology

. Last night he said he was just being vocal about an elected official adocating breaking the law (re: the Sorenson ADA remodel with LCDC funds) . We obviously disagree on what he terms as breaking the law.

He failed to answer the Sgt. Cupcake portion of the question so that was my follow up question to him. He said that other people such as Bill McCory have called me that and he may have done it once. He agreed it is disrespectful.

I was more interested in his negative comments on his, Bill's and Mary's blog toward my Chief and Captain regarding our new building in the park. I had a follow up question after he told the group of officers that if elected he would do what he could to provide us with what we need to do our job.

I then questioned him about the park bldg and our belief that it is what we need to do our job. I also asked about his negative comments. He immediatley said 'oh the Bunker?" The he went on to describe Bill McCory's expertise and how Bill feels we should have a RV instead of a building in the park. He mentioned a mobile command center. Perhaps Bill should explain to him with all of his expertise how much that costs. We actually have one available to us for major crimes through the County. The Police Department was interested in a permanent presence in the park. An RV did not meet that objective. Dan also talked about what he perceived as the PD and City not following a good process to obtain the building He believed it was a last minute decision to obtain the building and it should have gone through a planning process. I educated him that it was actually a year long process with several leaders in the Police Department involved.

Now...with all of this said. I do not begrudge him running for office but I do think he needs to be more responsible in seeking out information and not rely entirely on Bill McCory who is not connected to the Police Department in any way. Dan shook my hand after the meeting and said he was glad I asked the questions I did. There was other very good discussion with candidates that I will relay later. The Police Association will announce today who they will be endorsing for Mayor and Council.