



MINUTES OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 13th, 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Hall

Hillside Conference Room –second floor
10890 San Pablo Avenue

Chair Krueger called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Roll Call

Members in Attendance: Catherine Krueger, Eugene Go, Linda Jolivet and Marty Takimoto.
Member John Umemoto was not present.

City Council/Staff in Attendance: Mayor Greg Lyman / Sgt. Scott Cliatt

1. Council / Staff Liaison Reports:

Sgt. Cliatt reported there are five new officers currently in the Field Training Program and gave an overview of the training program. Mayor Lyman reported on the San Pablo Avenue specific plan and the consideration of adding a bicycle lane on San Pablo Avenue near the southern part of City.

2. Comments from the Public

Nicholas Arzio, El Cerrito resident reported that he has been abating a lot of graffiti himself on the east side of the 10000 blk of San Pablo Avenue. He wanted to receive information about video surveillance.

3. Discussion of Crime Prevention Committee Activities for 2013:

Sgt. Cliatt reported that the ranking of awards for National Night Out 2013 haven't been posted on the NATW webpage yet. A resident in the southern part of town was considering hosting a meeting soon.

The Committee discussed the Identity Theft seminar. Member Jolivet of the IF Theft seminar subcommittee reported that she was having a difficult time locating a presenter for the seminar and that the seminar has been postponed until next year.

Member Takimoto reported that he had Councilmember Benassini have been meeting about forming a Welcome Packet for new residents which would include Crime Prevention information. He suggested partnering with real estate agents in the area and local businesses. He provided an attachment listing their ideas.

4. Membership:

There was no report from the membership brochure sub-committee.

5. Communication Report (Including Neighborhood Watch / Home Security Report.)

None.

6. Adjournment

Moved and carried (Jolivet /Krueger) to adjourn at 8:27 PM.

9 October 2013

RE: Proposed New Resident Information Packet

Background: This idea started as a discussion between El Cerrito Council Member Rebecca Benassini and Crime Prevention Committee member Marty Takimoto. The general idea is to provide each new El Cerrito resident with a Welcome Packet or basket containing information on El Cerrito services, crime prevention, shopping, volunteer opportunities, etc.

Target: New EC residents. According to Redfin, last year 278 homes sold in the 94530 zip code, not including rentals. Anticipated target of several hundred new residents annually.

Some guiding principles in thinking about information for new residents:

--don't overwhelm new residents with information, just what's important as they settle in.
--save trees! What resources do we have on-line already? Perhaps links on a thumb drive!
--What are the important things we want new residents to know about? Let that guide decisions about contents

Some content ideas:

1. Welcome letter from the Mayor, City Council, staff, and volunteers (like you).
2. Quick Guide to City Services. We have a lot of existing resources information on-line and in the EC Recreation Brochure. What services are key for new residents? -- Recycling/green waste/garbage; Home improvements information (e.g., how EASY it is to get a building permit and information from our Climate Action Plan that states what a big proportion of our City's emissions come from residential natural gas use - Seal your houses, people!; definitely rec/park, etc.)
3. Crime Prevention Information and contact information for Neighborhood Watch Associations.
4. Want to get involved? List of neighborhood groups, community groups, El Cerrito's volunteer listserv, school volunteer opportunities; voter registration.
5. Donated goods or discount coupons from local merchants (e.g. half pound of coffee from a coffee house).
6. A gift from the City of El Cerrito to show pride for the community. Nothing big but something branded with the EC logo and useful for new residents.

Thoughts or ideas to:

Rebecca Benassini rbenassini@gmail.com

Marty Takimoto takimoto@berkeley.edu