



MINUTES
OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Hall

Hillside Conference Room –second floor
10890 San Pablo Avenue

1. Call to Order:

Committee Chair Nick Arzio called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

2. Roll Call:

Members in Attendance: Chair Nick Arzio, Vice-Chair Marty Takimoto, Eugene Go, Bruce Yow, Linda Jolivet (7:03 until 8:25 PM), Mollie Hazen, and Nathan DeClue (until 8 PM).

Members not in Attendance: N/A

City Council/Staff in Attendance: Cpl. Brian Elder

Guests/Members of the Public: Cordell Hindler

3. Approval of Minutes:

Vice-Chair Takimoto made note of a misspelled business name in the minutes from the January CPC meeting.

Moved and carried (Hazen/Takimoto) to adopt the amended version of the January 11th 2017, meeting minutes as written.

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: None

Abstentions: None

4. Council / Staff Liaison Reports:

Cpl. Elder reported that there has been an increase in residential burglaries, auto burglaries, robberies and stolen vehicles. The ECPD made 3 arrests for residential burglaries and an arrest for the burglary of a vehicle. Cpl. Elder asked that the members continue to be vigilant is looking for suspicious persons and activity.

Cpl. Elder also alerted the committee of a new fraud trend where homes/rooms for rent and being posted on social media sources and potential renters are providing a security deposit to hold the location. The renter then later learns that the home/room is not for rent and the money has been deposited in a foreign bank account.

Cpl. Elder reported to the committee that he compiled and submitted an attendance report for the calendar year 2015 and 2016 to the City Clerk. Cpl. Elder also passed out copies of the ECMC that outlines the rules regarding attendance and absences. Cpl. Elder also passed out a copy of his business card which contained his telephone number and email address. All

current members of the committee were present at the meeting and received the information as to how to report an excused/unexcused absence.

Cpl. Elder provided the committee with a sample of a master calendar used by the committee several years prior. The calendar could be used to assist in the planning of committee activities throughout the year.

5. Comments from the Public:

Cordell Hindler provided the committee with example of the roles and responsibilities of the position of Sergeant-at-Arms as it relates to a Neighborhood Watch meeting.

6. Discussion of Crime Prevention Committee Activities:

- a) Illegal Dumping Subcommittee updates (Chair- Arzio/ Vice-Chair Takimoto).
 - During the January meeting, the committee approved a letter drafted by members of the subcommittee which recommended that the City Council consider re-negotiating the current contract with East Bay Sanitation. Cpl. Elder reported that the letter and attachment he received from Chair- Arzio was forwarded to the City Clerk which was provided to the members of City Council. Cpl. Elder also reported that Council Member Greg Lyman is the new Council liaison to the Crime Prevention Committee.

- b) Neighborhood Watch Outreach Subcommittee updates (Chair-Arzio/ Member Go).
 - Update on the proposed meeting (April 4th) for Neighborhood Watch (NW) and National Night Out (NNO) leadership. Vice-Chair suggested that first meeting being more of a social event held at his house versus a more formal meeting at a larger venue.

Moved and carried (Arzio/Takimoto) to hold the first meeting with NW and NNO leadership at Vice-Chair Takimoto's home on April 4, 2017.

Aye: Unanimous

Nay: None

Abstentions: None

The name of this Subcommittee was changed to the Neighborhood Watch/NNO Outreach Subcommittee. Member Hazen was also added to the Subcommittee.

- c) CPC Home Security Seminar Subcommittee (Takimoto/Jolivet/Hazen)
 - Vice-Chair Takimoto suggested that the next topic as a joint effort with the CPC/PTA to cover cyber bullying and internet safety which could be aimed at both kids and parents. The members agreed to modify the name of the subcommittee to better reflect the goals of the subcommittee. Cpl. Elder passed out the new CPC whistles which were recently ordered and will be used as give away items at CPC functions.

The name of this Subcommittee was changed to the CPC Seminar Planning Subcommittee. A second Subcommittee (Crime Prevention Educational Materials) was created to separate the two topics of discussion.

d) CPC Recruitment Subcommittee (Takimoto/Jolivet/Hazen)

- Vice-Chair Takimoto presented the committee with examples of past tri-fold pamphlets that the committee had created in past years. The subcommittee recommended that a post card sized recruitment document and similar brochure be created and approved in time for the 4th of July festival. Vice-Chair Takimoto also highlighted the need for information regarding how the Neighborhood Watch program operates.

e) Crime Prevention Committee membership requirements (Arzio)

- At the request of the committee, Cpl. Elder provided the supplemental application document that is required of every prospective CPC member before being approved as a full member. The document informs the applicant of the following requirements; a criminal history check via fingerprints, a regional database check of local law enforcement/criminal contacts, a search of the Megan's Law database, and a search of the applicants DMV driving record. Chair-Arzio indicated that did not agree with the requirement DMV driving record for membership to the CPC but did say that if there was a requirement for fingerprints, that the requirement should be equally applied to everyone. Chair-Arzio pointed out that there is no ECMC that covers the supplemental application document requirement for membership to the CPC.

Moved and carried (Arzio/Jolivet) a motion to create a subcommittee to review and recommend any potential changes for approvals of the membership requirements.

Aye: Chair Arzio, Member Jolivet, Member Yow

Nay: Vice-Chair Takimoto, Member Hazen

Abstentions: Member Go

Absent: Member DeClue

f) El Cerrito Police Department Nixle blotter (Jolivet)

- Member Jolivet addressed the committee and indicated that she has observed inconsistencies on how the physical characteristics listed in the blotter. In the general examples that Member Jolivet provided the committee the inconsistent variable was the race of the individual. Chair-Arzio also seconded the concerns addressed by Member Jolivet. Cpl. Elder indicated that the race of an individual is provided in instances where there is a suspect in the crime. The information is provided to the public to help identify potential witnesses. Prior to the meeting Cpl. Elder went back and checked through several weeks of blotter entries and could not find any entries that had the inconsistency. Member Jolivet told the committee that she would compile a list of specific instances where she noted the inconsistency and would bring them to the March meeting. Member Jolivet will also be authoring a draft for a recommendation for the Police Department on how and when the blotter should indicate the race of an individual.

g) Work plan for CPC to submit to City Council.

- The committee worked on the 16-17 year work plan to submit to the City Council. Chair Arzio facilitated a discussion with the committee which helped to create a list of activities to list on the work plan. The status of activities from earlier in the work plan was also updated. Chair Arzio will be compiling the information collected during the meeting into a rough draft to be presented at the March meeting for review and discussion. A date for presenting the work plan to City Council has not yet been set.

7. Membership:

Cpl. Elder informed the committee that Member DeClue had submitted the required information for the membership background process and is now a full member of the committee.

8. Communication Report (Including Neighborhood Watch / Home Security Report):

Cpl. Elder indicated that there were no new messages on either the CPC voice mail account or email account.

9. Adjournment:

Moved and carried; adjourned at 8:46 PM. Unanimous.