



CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

MEETING MINUTES
SOUTHWEST AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
6:00 PM
PATRICK J. BACA LIBRARY
8081 CENTRAL NW
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

In Attendance:

- Michal Zocholl, Chair
- Jan LaPitz– Council Member
- Larry LaPitz- Council Member
- Don Burns – Council Member
- L. John Russo - Council Member
- Sergeant Richard Ingram, APD
- Officer Mikhail Kupper
- Celina Espinoza – Communications Outreach Director, APD
- Yvette Marentes, CPC Admin

Approximately 2 members of the public were in attendance.

6:00 Call to order/Welcome

- Meeting called to order by Michael Zocholl, at 6:03pm
- Went over the ground rules for the meeting and limitations for questions.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda was made, there was a discussion to add to agenda the correction to the guidelines (Under Old Business,) also to add the discussion for a Co-Chair (under new business.) Motion was approved with the addendum to the agenda

Approval of August minutes

Minutes from last month were not sent out in time. They will be sent out with this month's minutes and will be put on the agenda for approval for October.

Crime Update * from Sergeant Ingram

Officers just started new bid in the area command, they are going to try and send new/different officers out to our CPC meeting every month. Crime stats were discussed, since September 1st; 13 residential burglaries (however they have not seen any patterns to these,) 21 auto burglaries (hotspot areas along central,) 4 commercial burglaries.

There are no new trends in certain communities to report.

Old business

All CPC members need to go on at least 2 ride alongs with an officer, each a minimum of 8 hours. The addition to the guidelines should include that the ride-alongs be limited to a minimum of 4 hours each. That was something that was missed, the council did vote on it but it was not caught when looking for things to correct.

The council did ask how many ride alongs APD would recommend, they recommended 4 ride alongs so the council is going below what APD recommends. There is nothing in the CASA at this time concerning ride alongs. As we grow, we need to make sure that we are documenting the ride alongs to show they have happened.

Don suggested that the person that goes on the ride along can give a report on what happened. The board thinks that it is a good idea and made a motion to add a report to our guidelines. Motion carried, council needs to make sure to add into guidelines and submit as soon as possible.

Jan LaPitz had some questions and concerns regarding the CPA (Citizen Police Academy,) she wants to emphasize the fact that even though we have been discussing the council attending for some time, it has not happened. Also, our new voting members need to apply for the CPA as well. Michael Zocholl let the group know there has not been an assigned date but that he will announce once a date is set. Also there has been some discussion on shortening the academy due to the council being volunteers but nothing is set in stone. APD wants to keep the Citizen Police Academy as close to the actual Cadet Academy as possible. The shortened version has not happened, no voting member can intentionally wait for the shortened version unless extenuating circumstances exist.

New Business

Early voting has already started today.

Ideas for new proposals

Larry LaPitz suggested that we contact APD for a training on arrest policy and procedure. He stated that the council has never seen any demonstration regarding this or anything thing in writing to show what the proper procedure is. He thinks it would be very beneficial for the CPC to get a demonstration from APD on proper procedure in an arrest because it seems that when there is a real problem, it involves how someone's being arrested. He wants to know if there is a policy and procedure on how and when to conduct a search as well as what procedure is once someone is placed into handcuffs.

Sergeant Ingram stated that the Academy staff would probably be the most suitable for the training but council members will also be able to see this during ride-alongs. He stated that the process when making an arrest is very intricate, there are many variables that go into the arrest procedure depending on the situation.

The council decided that they are going to look into seeing if someone can come out and go over this. It can be discussed when looking into recommendations for other guest speakers or it could possibly be a recommendation to be added into the CPA class.

Co-Chair

A motion was made to nominate Don Burns as co-chair. There were no other nominates made, a motion was made to close nominations and passed and Don Burns was elected unanimously as co-chair.

Suggestions on guest speakers:

- Pink behind the blue
- Presentation on lapel (on body) camera
- Training from the academy on search and arrest.

If anyone has any other ideas, please send Michael Zocholl an email and he will keep a running list

Officers on the force compared to retirees

There were questions posed from the council to Sergeant Ingram and Officer Kupper regarding how to keep an officer on the force after he is eligible for retirement and/or what it would take or what an officer would want to stay on. There were suggestions that maybe the council or APD can look into some sort of survey officers can fill out posing these questions. It might be something the council will look into recommending to the new Chief of Police.

Should we make a motion to ask for discussion about a brief statement regarding a survey asking all current officers what would keep them from leaving.

Recruiting for CPC

The council is having difficulty getting people here and feels they might not be getting the exposure that we need. Michael Zocholl stated thinks he can get assistance and hopefully we can get a chief that will be more involved with the Community Policing Council.

Update on Proposals

All proposals the council has voted on have been written up and submitted however, it is uncertain how long it is going to take to get an answer back.

New Proposals

None at this time, new proposals may be on hold until new administration takes over.

Guest Speakers

Sergeant Ingram to talk about the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) project

As of right now, the P.O.P. area being targeted is on Coors along the motels, the city is coming up on state fair and balloon fiesta which is a time for thieves to go to hotels, APD is making sure to get detectives out there as well. In November the P.O.P. project will move to Coors and Central; the A.R.T. project is clearing at Coors and central so that area will also be addressed.

Sergeant Ingram stated sometimes they get "under reporting" where people do not call and report incidents, but it is important to report these things because they can track the data and find out the popular areas for crime. Each area command has a different P.O.P. project going on.

People are not reporting crimes as much as they should, they do not know what is going on unless people report it. There are people in the community that do not understand law enforcement or how it works, or they do not want to be involved and that is why they do not call. When Jan LaPitz did outreach she saw the community was unwilling to help because it is the "officer's job." Officer Kupper stated that he is seeing a handful of times people do not want to call the police because of a neighborhood culture. Where they do not want to be known as the people that call the cops because they are in fear of their neighbors. Sometimes there is a language barrier situation as well. They do not believe they will be heard possibly.

Sergeant Ingram hopes that people will take what we learn here today and pass it along so that information is passed on to people that may trust their neighbor more than they trust the police. People in the community need to insure that they are also using the next-door app. Every time someone says something happened, let them know that they need to contact the police. If the crime is not reported, then how will the police know? She is constantly telling them to be sure if they see something, say something.

John, a voting member from the community stated that there was an incident he reported that was referred to the 242-COPS number. He kept calling and he doesn't think that the police even came or responded to his calls. He was very disappointed and so he wants to know how the police determine what is priority? Wanted to know how to report the incident, he found that there were 3 ways to report: online, telephone or in person. Telephone reporting unit only works during business hours, he has not called as of yet. In person reporting, he was told he can make a report at his command center. Wanted to know, what is the most effective way to get a report filed, and how long it will process until he can get a report. He tried to fill out a report online but the form timed out on him.

A suggestion was made to make a proposal that the website should not time out if someone is trying to fill out a report online. Celina Espinoza explained that the Director of records was sent an email regarding the time out. Celina was unaware that the session expired and is looking to see if a warning can be added to the online reporting. So far there have been no developments but they are looking into it. The required fields on the form are things that an officer has to be sure to ask if they are filing a formal police report so they cannot really be altered. Celina is going to look into the online form to see what it says, and to give it to the council and she will give the council stats so that they can make recommendations.

In terms of a police report, usually the report can take anywhere between 7-14 business days to receive.

- Nextrequest.cabq.gov – you can request a report off of this website as long as you have the case number.

Officer Kupper wanted to reiterate that the public make sure they are calling in even if they just hear gunshots because police can get to that area regardless over time and the data helps. If police are in the area, people will see a police car and will leave.

Celina Espinoza pointed out that the city is installing new LED light poles, there is a chunk of money left over and they are looking into possible video surveillance or shot spotters. Most shot spotters work in more densely populated communities. But they are at least looking at that technology.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25