

Foothills Area Command Community Policing Council

MINUTES

Monday 14 August 2017 5:30pm – 7:50pm Holiday Park Community Center 11710 Comanche Road NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111

- 1. Call to order and Reading of the Community Policing Council Goals—Rod Kontny, Chair—The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, followed by reading of the CPC goals.
- 2. Introductions of Council, APD representatives, and Visitors—The new Foothills Area Commander, Fernando Aragon, introduced himself and gave a brief summary of his work with APD, including working in the Downtown area and previously in the Crime Lab.
- **3.** Review/amendment/approval of Agenda—The agenda was approved as presented, in unanimous voice vote.
- 4. Review/correction/approval of Minutes from July 10th meeting *-- The minutes were approved as presented, in unanimous voice vote.
- 5. Vote on Council member—CPC member Kelly Baughman was removed, upon motion by Chair Kontny, seconded by Abbin. Ms Baughman has missed four meeting in a row, as of this meeting.
- 6. APD Communications
 - a. **Review of Foothills Crime Report from APD [attached to this Agenda]**—Lt Simmons reviewed the Crime Report. Noting the high incidence of vehicle theft in the city, she emphasized the need to be attentive and to take measures to prevent theft. While most of the vehicles stay in the Albuquerque area, some—especially older trucks—are taken to Mexico. Many vehicles are hotwired; the damage to the ignition system can be very expensive, if the vehicle is recovered. Since windows are broken for the most meager of thefts, Lt Simmons recommends keeping the vehicle clean of all items and as appropriate, leaving the vehicle unlocked. Front yard lights deter thieves.

In response to a question about cameras, she said that posting notices of camera installations can act as deterrents as well. She noted that newer Subarus may have valet keys inside the owners' manuals, which owners forget and which are easy for a thief to find and use.

Finally, she asked everyone to be cognizant of who is in the neighborhood and report suspicious persons or activity to 242-COPS and to use the APD app.

- **b.** Community Outreach Report from Nicole Chavez-Lucero—While there were no reports to be made, Nicole introduced Yvette Marentes, who is the new CPC administrator.
- 7. **Pulse of the Neighborhoods—Brief reports from CPC members and citizens-**Chair Kontny said he was thinking of recommending a reduction in the paperwork mandated in low-level Use of Force situations.

Annual crime statistics (and other information) are available at <u>www.cabq.gov/police</u> Public Reports.

Frank Ernst (of SW CPC) noted that most burglar alarms are false alarms and questioned whether the alarm ordinance can be changed so that officers can respond quickly to real alarms. He suggested that all the CPCs can work together to craft a more effective alarm ordinance.

Commander Aragon said that attempts to revise the city's alarm ordinance to include response only verified alarm systems has been stymied by pressure from alarm companies who install unverified systems; currently, about 99% of all alarms are false alarms coming from unverified systems.

He also noted that there are many complaints about panhandlers at intersections. A new ordinance is forthcoming; Councilor Jones is drafting an ordinance that would forbid anyone from standing in a median—as a general pedestrian safety move. The homeless situation is not a police problem.

An attendee described traffic problems on Menaul; Cmdr Aragon said he would look into the situation.

- 8. Recommendations from Council members and Citizens—There were no specific recommendations forthcoming.
- 9. Other Business
- 10. Featured Speaker: Lt Bret White— SOP 2-52-4I: Levels of Force: Intermediate Force. The discussion covered Empty Hand Tactics, OC Spray, Baton or Impact Weapons, Electronic Control Weapon and Less Lethal Impact Munitions. This was a quick review of the type of tools that fall into these categories and considerations for choosing a specific tool. Lt White said that about 95% of Use of Force applications fall into this category. "Intermediate Force" actions are those which are not intended to cause injury, but may result in some non-serious injury. Their use requires training and practice in order to prevent serious injury.
- **11. Adjournment**—The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm by Vice-Chair Butler, upon motion by St John, seconded by Slauson, and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Comments or Questions: Rod Kontny, CPC Chair Ralph Butler, CPC Vice-Chair Philip Crump, CPC Facilitator

(505) 292-6434 rkontny@aol.com (505) 377-1456/433-2641 ralph.butler60@gmail.com (505) 989-8558 philip@pcmediate.com

ATTENDEES:

CPC Members: David Barbour Joe Abbin Mark Burton Ralph Butler, Vice-Chair Rod Kontny, Chair Sabrina Slauson Valerie St. John APD Foothills Area Command: Cmdr Fernando Aragon Lt. Bret White Lt. Ferris Simmons APD Community Outreach: Nicole Chavez-Lucero Yvette Marentes

8 first-time visitors and 19 returning visitors signed in at the meeting. SUBMITTED: READ AND APPROVED:

Philip Crump, Facilitator

Rod Kontny, Chair