

**Southeast Area Command Community Policing Council**

**Minutes**

**January 11, 2017: 6:00pm – 7:30pm**

**Cesar Chavez Community Center – 7505 Kathryn SE, Albuquerque, NM**

**Introductions were made. SEACPC Board Member Present- Ron Halbgewachs, Chair, Riley Jordan, Caroline Monie, Todd Kersting. APD officers present were Sgt. Diane Dosal, Ofc. Jeffrey Bludworth, Ofc. Earl Higgs.**

1. **Call to order was done by Ron Halbgewachs, Chair.**
2. **A determination of a quorum was made**
3. **Approval of the Agenda was made by the group**
4. **Approval of the minutes was made for November and December.**
5. **Presentation was given by Danny Whatley, Director of The Tock at Noon Day regarding Mental Health Issues & the Homelessness interactions as well as Jennifer Metzler, Executive Director of Healthcare for the Homeless.**
6. **Public comments/questions/responses- There was a questions brought up by a community member asking who the groups Noon Day and Healthcare for the homeless is here for, the community or helping just the homeless. He said he saw someone using the bathroom on the side of the road in front of everyone.**

**Danny advised that security is a huge issue and they used to have porta potties in the parking lot, it became safety issue so they removed them.**

**Jenn stated that she thinks community centers are underutilized. Some staff members at community centers are welcoming to the homeless. She says that the homeless need to be integrated across the city. Their bathrooms are open to the public during business hours.**

**Another community member said that we need to add a public restroom in Old Town. There used to be some but he questioned who was in charge of maintaining them. It seems the public commitment and businesses don’t want to make a commitment to the homeless and it should be a basic human need that bathrooms open to the public all around town.**

**Jen stated that when there were porta potties they burnt down some, they got clogged with needles. It just didn’t work.**

**Board member Frank Ernst said that 30 years ago the journal did a survey and showed that 90% of the homeless had a substance abuse problem. 80% of the people in jail have the same substance abuse problem, what is being done for this problem?**

**Jen answered by saying that Healthcare for the Homeless has been treating substance abuse for the homeless for over 30 years and giving them sobaxone. She said she believes that housing the homeless as well as treating them will help this issue. She said she believes a 12 step residential treatment would equal a success rate of 30%-70%**

**Danny answered by saying that over 30 years ago, a majority of the homeless were not drug users and had mental illness or were veterans.**

**Pete Denali stated that he may run for Mayor, and that he is concerned about the increase in homeless of younger individuals who are addicting to drugs and alcohol. He thinks that the community needs to work with Mayor Berry for more oversight for city funds to help with this issue.**

**Another community member said he has made over 1800 calls on repeat offenders and no one goes to jail there is a problem. That these individuals are now getting checks for their mental illness. They don’t get any warning or tickets. St. Martins hasn’t been supervising the area, over half of the neighborhood has moved out of Wells Park. The Mayor, Chief and City council have been secretive and not transparent. He has picked up needles over and over in the park. He said they are now selling the needles they get for free to others for $1.00 and the media isn’t covering this issue.**

**Pete Denali said that the Mayor’s office needs to dedicate more resources for chronic homelessness. Progress on this has been thrown back and we need to concentrate on helping the homeless and how to deal with them.**

**Sergeant Dosal stated that all officers are now trained on CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) they have to take a mandatory 40 hours of this training. She also takes an additional Enhanced Crisis Intervention training which makes her specialized in the area of crisis intervention. APD also has COAST teams that partner with mental health providers. APD officers also hand out vouchers to hotels and buses.**

**GP Lovato stated that he attended the last Federal hearing and there was a memo intercepted that advised the APD officers that they needed to be more aggressive and were worried about an underuse of force, it was an officer safety issue. He asked the officers present if they received this letter?**

**All officers present were not aware of this letter and did not receive it. Ed Harness said he thinks the letter was drafted and worked through command staff but never distributed.**

1. **Monthly crime update was given from the area command officers. She also discussed a TACT plan that they worked based off of a community members concern at the last SE CPC meeting. IT turned out well, trash and mattresses were also picked up during the crime monitoring during the TACT plan.**
2. **A call out for review of ride alongs was made by Ron, there was none to review.**
3. **Agenda for the next meetings were discussed. Topics are as planned:**

**The topic “Discussion of new APD Use of Force Guidelines” was voted to be tabled until the next meeting.**

1. **Other business/public comment was made:**

**GP wanted to state that ride alongs are being denied. In two years he has only done 2 ride alongs but was denied a ride along at the Valley area command.**

**Tony Pinard made the statement that the CPC needs to address APD murdering community members before closing out the meeting.**

1. **Adjournment**