



## **The 2016 Annual Report of the Northeast Area Command Community Policing Council**

***Compiled by Penny Hoe, Board Member & Vice-Chair, 2014-2016***

The Northeast Area Command Community Policing Council (NECPC) held eleven public meetings in 2016, one per month except for December. In January 2016 there were five continuing voting Board members: Annie Onderdonk (Chair), Penny Hoe (Vice-Chair), Constance Banuelos, Darlene Couchman, and Dwight Drake. Jessie Lawrence served as Facilitator. NE Commander Randy Remiker, Lt. Joe Burke, Detective Christian Baker, and Officer Simon Drobik were regular non-voting representatives of APD. Other APD Officers attended as needed.

Meetings were held on second Tuesdays at the North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center unless otherwise noted. At every meeting opportunity was provided for questions and comments from members of the public.

NECPC meetings were publicized through emails to attendees, emails sent by the D-4, D-7, and D-8 coalitions of Neighborhood Associations, postings on Nextdoor.com and the NE Area Command website, via several block captains and two Neighborhood CrimeWatch coordinators, via signs provided by Celina Espinoza, as well as by the City on its webpage for all six CPCs and via an insert in the City Water bill in November 2016. Emails were also sent monthly to a list of neighborhood association presidents approximately 1 week prior to each meeting with a request to forward to their members.

### **12 January 2016 NECPC Meeting:**

**Attendance** – 12 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 64 members of the public.

**Actions** – 2015 Annual Report of the NECPC was read and accepted.

**Guest Speaker** -- US Attorney Damon Martinez and Staff addressed the current policy development occurring under the DOJ Settlement Agreement; partnerships with law enforcement, including the Worst of the Worst Initiative and the HOPE (Heroin and Opioid Prevention and Education) Initiative.

**Other Topics** -- State Representative Bill Rehm presented a summary of the legislation concerning law enforcement that he would be proposing in the pending legislative session. APD Detective Christian Baker summarized crime statistics in the Northeast Area Command during the months of November, December, and January.

### **9 February 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 11 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 69 members of the public.

**Other Topics** -- After the APD report of crime statistics, meeting participants were asked for suggestions about implementing community policing and topics for recommendations. (See February minutes for list of suggestions.)

### **8 March 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 14 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 51 members of the public.

**Actions** – The Board established an ad hoc committee, later called *Neighborhood Watch Advocates (NWA)* with a four-fold mission to collaborate with the Northeast Area Command in providing a resource for crime prevention, building trust between APD and the community, supporting Neighborhood Watch block captains, and advising the NECPC of possible recommendations.

**Guest Speakers** -- Lt Jennifer Garcia, APD Internal Affairs, presented information on APD's new Use of Force Policy and answered questions from CPC members and members of the public. Susanne Brown, a member of the Police Oversight Board Committee on Use of Force, presented information about the Civilian Police Oversight Agency, the Police Oversight Board, and the Committee on Use of Force.

**Other Topics** -- Two Department of Justice attorneys present answered questions about the roles of the DOJ and the independent monitor.

### **12 April 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 9 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 39 members of the public.

**Actions** – The Board heard reports on the March 26, 2016, public Summit Meeting of all six CPCs and on the progress of the ad hoc (NWA) committee.

**Other Topics** discussed by attendees included recruiting applicants to the NECPC, the background check process, and interviewing applicants. APD officers were asked to explain on-body cameras and APD policy for tracking use of them. Two proposed recommendations were deferred for lack of time.

### **10 May 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 11 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 38 members of the public.

**Actions** – Report of the ad hoc (NWA) committee

**Guest Speakers** – Peggy Howell, NM League of Women Voters, shared information about that organization and its involvement as part of the APD Forward coalition. Taina Colon presented information about her role with the ACLU and APD Forward. She stated that these organizations are able to provide support for CPC concerns and community concerns about progress on the settlement agreement.

### **14 June 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 10 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 17 members of the public.

**Actions** – The Board voted to receive Troy Taylor as a new Board member and heard the NWA report.

**Guest Speaker** -- Lt. Josh McDonald, APD SWAT Unit, presented information and answered questions from attendees about the SWAT team, its operations, and policy changes due to the settlement agreement.

### **12 July 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** -- 16 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 48 members of the public.

**Actions** -- NECPC council members voted to approve Brennan Williams and Stacy Oliva as voting board members, and Bettina Eklund, Eric Olivas, and Dorothy Woodward as non-voting board members who would be eligible to vote as soon as their background checks and ride-alongs have been completed.

**Other Topics** -- Meeting attendees had a wide-ranging discussion about topics including recent news events, race, police procedures, the role of police in the community, the DOJ settlement agreement, the Thin Blue Line symbol, homelessness, and mental health.

### **9 August 2016 NECPC Meeting**

**Attendance** – 17 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 52 members of the public.

**Actions** – The NWA report invited block captains, individuals who want to form Neighborhood Watches, and other interested persons to a Symposium August 24<sup>th</sup> at Heights Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**APD Presentations** – Celina Espinoza, on behalf of Chief Eden, presented a comprehensive explanation of the development of new APD policies under the settlement agreement, including changes to the policy development process; training for officers in the new policies; APD compliance with the settlement agreement; and the roles of the Community Policing Councils under the settlement agreement. Nicole Chavez-Lucero, APD's new community outreach coordinator, introduced herself and stated that her role will be to work with the CPCs and increase involvement between APD and the community.

**Other topics** – Community attendees asked questions and discussed staffing needs, the monitor's reports, the APD culture, 12-hour officer shifts, the possibility of a night court, and the possibility of a grand jury. (See the August minutes for details.)

### **Monday, 19 September 16 NECPC Meeting at Risen Savior Catholic Church**

**Attendance** -- 14 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 35 members of the public.

**Actions** – Janet Butts, Chair of the NWA, reported that 69 persons attended the 8/24/16 Symposium and that another Symposium would be held later in the fall. The committee's criteria for success include the number of people that participate, the number of requests for more training and information, and the number of new neighborhood watches and block captains.

**APD Presentation** -- Lt Joe Burke described the Police and Community Together (PACT) pilot program being initiated in the Northeast Area Command to expand and redefine community policing and community outreach and work to address root causes of crime. There was extensive public discussion about Community Policing as well as other topics, including mental health services.

## Monday, 17 October 16 NECPC Meeting at Risen Savior Catholic Church

**Attendance** -- 13 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 38 members of the public.

**Actions** – Copies of the draft NECPC Guidelines were distributed for public review. The NWA report announced a second Symposium on November 9<sup>th</sup> and a coffee for Block Captains in December.

**Recommendations** – The Board voted to re-submit the three NECPC 2015 recommendations using the new approved form in order to have official response in auditable form for the DOJ Monitor on what actions APD took on the recommendations. (See the October minutes for a list of these recommendations that were re-submitted.) A new recommendation was proposed on getting information about *What to Do If Stopped By a Cop* into the high schools for teen drivers. Attendees made suggestions to expand and improve the recommendation, so it was deferred to the next meeting.

**Guest Speakers** -- Danny Whatley explained the scope of his work with the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC) and The Rock at Noonday. Jennifer Metzler, discussed her work with Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless. Questions from the public included how to provide resources for the homeless, homeless veterans, the root causes of homelessness, the stigma of mental illness, the needs of Native homeless individuals, the planned Bernalillo County mental health triage centers, the costs of providing housing to the homeless, and how to address panhandling.

## Monday, 21 November 16 NECPC Meeting at Risen Savior Catholic Church

**Attendance** -- 15 Board members and APD representatives at the head table, plus approximately 15 members of the public.

**Actions** – The Board approved the NECPC Guidelines and the recommendation on Teen Drivers, which was signed and given to Nicole Chavez-Lucero. A recommendation on Bicycle Cops was tabled. The new ongoing Board recognized the five Board members whose terms expired Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board distributed a survey to gather demographic information about public attendees.

**Guest Speaker** -- Katrina Hotrum, Director of Bernalillo County Department of Substance Abuse and Treatment, presented information about the Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Initiative, including its history, current priorities, and partnerships. Discussion included questions about coordination between different government entities, how to obtain the necessary workforce, and relevant state legislation in the 2017 legislative session.

## Additional Training, Summits, Hearings, and Other Meetings attended by Members of the NECPC Board

All-day **Training sessions** for the Boards of all six CPCs were held on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

Public **Summit Meetings** of all six CPC Board members were called and facilitated by the Citizen Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) on March 26<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup> and November, XX 2016. The Report on the March Summit can be found in the 4/12/16 minutes.

**Conferences in the US Attorney's Office** were held with all six CPC Boards on June 15<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

The CPCs represented by Valley CPC Chair Jim Souter presented testimony at public **Hearings before US District Court Judge Robert C. Brack** concerning the Monitor's third reports and fourth reports July 28<sup>th</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016.,

**Nicole Chavez-Lucero and Celina Espinoza** convened a **Touchpoint Meeting** on procedures and public attendance with the CPC Boards on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.

In 2016 all six new Board members and one out-going Board member completed the 12-week **Citizen's Police Academy** (as required by the DOJ settlement agreement). The six new members also went on ride-alongs with APD officers in 2016.

The Chair attended ~5 **CPC Chairs Meetings** called informally with other CPC chairs to discuss meeting plans and other incidental topics.

The chair spoke at the **North Wyoming NA** and the **Heritage Hills NA** to discuss CPC efforts and recruiting.

### **Continuing Board of Voting Members as of January 2017:**

The six voting members of the Board of the NECPC for 2017 are Eric Olivas (Chair), Brennan Williams (Vice-Chair), Stacy Oliva (Secretary), Bettina Eklund, Troy Taylor, and Dorothy Woodward, with Jessie Lawrence as Facilitator.

The meetings of the NECPC will return to second Tuesdays of the month at North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center as of January 2017.

**\*\*\*As of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 no written response has been received for any of the recommendations ever submitted by NECPC\*\*\***