



**Minutes of the Southeast Area Command Community Policing Council
Regular Meeting
January 15, 2015
Cesar Chavez Community Center
7505 Kathryn Ave SE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108**

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Colt Balok, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2015.

Council Members Present:

Mr. Colt Balok
Mr. Ronald Halbgewachs
Officer Tim Hotole
Mr. Frank Luna
Officer Phil Moya
Sgt. Jason Sanchez

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jeanette Martinez, Moderator

2. Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Council did not have enough members present to have a quorum. Council conducted informal discussion about District 6 Coalition and its purpose. Council discussed target issues that will become the focus of the group as they work collaboratively to identify and implement strategies to address crime and safety issues.

3. Discussion about Resolution

Council member Ronald Halbgewachs shared an overview of the District 6 Coalition. The Coalition consists of small community groups which includes representatives from the city and county governments, state representatives and APD Area Command officers. There are 16 neighborhoods that are a part of this Coalition that meet every 3 months. The groups are focused primarily on the security and safety of schools.

Council member Frank Luna shared his “ride a long” experience with the group. He was with an officer who responded to several calls but he was with the office when her responded to an officer involved shooting. A suspect shoot at officers several times before being shot and killed himself. Mr. Luna mentioned he saw a whole new side of Law Enforcement that gave him a new perspective.

Council members discussed the Mental Health issue and its effect on policing and the community. APD officers who were present discussed a few of these issues.

- * It is difficult for officers to decipher whether a suspect has a mental health disorder or if their violent behavior is drug induced. Many times it is both.
- * There are very few mental health facilities that keep the suspects in treatment long enough for suspect to completely recover.
- * Mental Health patients are being dealt with as a violent member of society because they don't or choose not to get help.
- * Police have to resort to putting individuals with mental health issues in jail to deal with drug induced mental illness issues.
- * The Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) is the only long term drug treatment center in the city. Individuals who should be taking their prescribed medication do so only when confined to MDC. After being released individuals stop taking their medication again and the dysfunctional cycle begins all over again. Many times police are returning the same individuals back to jail over and over again.

4. Public Comment

Two Mental Health advocates Lisa Seepaul, and Enrique Cardiel were a present at the meeting. Lisa discussed the latest tax increase that was approved to provide mental health services. Her understanding is that a mental health crisis center will be established as well as a 24/7 treatment center which include training for 911 dispatchers. Both mental health advocates agreed to support the council while they continue to address this issue.

5. New Business/Announcements

New business was not discussed. Council did not have a quorum.

6. Agenda

February 19, 2015

1. Continue with Mental Health discussion.
2. Come to a consensus about next steps.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the council, Chairman Colt Balok reminded everyone of the next regular meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 6:00 pm. The meeting adjourned at 6:00