

MEETING MINUTES
VALLEY AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
THURSDAY, May 26, 2016
LOS DURANES COMMUNITY CENTER
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jim Souter

The meeting was called to order at 6:05PM.

II. COUNCILOR ROLL CALL: Chair Jim Souter

Present:

James Souter - Chair
Edwina Kiro – Vice Chair
Richard Deichsel - Secretary
Jennifer Rhea
Joan Wierzba
Paul Watson
Officer John Burley

Absent

Kathleen O'Malley
Maxine Cowton

Also Present:

Consultants:
Sgt. Terysa Bowie
Det. George Gabaldon
Resource Director:
Celina Espinoza, APD, Communications and Community Outreach Director

Facilitator:
David Gold

Community members present: See attached sign in sheet

III. APPROVAL OF April 29, 2016 MINUTES

A change was noted in the April minutes. Item 3, involving Joan Wierzba was switched. Maxine made the motion, Joan seconded.

Motion to approve the April, 2016 Minutes was made by Jennifer Rhea, seconded by Vice-Chair Edwina Kira, and approved by voice vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Joan Wierzba, seconded by Richard Deichsel, and approved by voice vote.

VI. OFFICIAL BUSINESS

A. Maxine Cownton – Annual Report for 2015 submitted.

B. Recommendations to move the starting time of the meeting to 5:45

1. Members discussed changing the meeting start time to 5:45 to accommodate more public speaking by finishing business earlier.
2. A motion was made by Chair Jim Souter, seconded by Jennifer Rhea, and approved unanimously.

C. Recommendations for time savings through the use of a voice recognition program.

1. Members discussed the advantages of APD using automatic dictation system.
2. In Minnesota officers spend 40% of their time writing reports.
3. Programs can be bought for \$79. Could cut dictation time 50-75%, saving estimate \$6 million/year.
4. Could be tried with one officer from each command to evaluate.
5. Question were asked about where statistics came from. Others felt it was a “no-brainer”.
6. A motion to pass was made by Paul Watson, seconded by Joan Wierzba and passed unanimously.

D. Richard Deichsel – Update on downtown programs

1. Represents 5 associations from the downtown area.
2. Concern was expressed about an officer transfer to SWAT from the downtown area before a replacement was available.
3. The APD response was that SWAT was vastly understaffed and other patrols can respond. Any in-area command can be called in.

E. Celina Espinoza – Community outreach update on advertising for CPCs.

1. Each CPC had “homework” after summit, formalizing guidelines.
2. Background check for ride-alongs should be sufficient for CPC membership.
3. Almost done with minutes on the web site.
4. Communication between board members has improved. DOJ will do conference calls between CPCs.
5. Advertisements about CPCs will be in November water bills.
6. Office of Policy Development will be getting recommendations from CPCs.

F. Jim Souter - Update on DOJ projects / block captains conference / next meetings subject / July meeting subject / explanation email to the mayor / scenario and introduction of our guest speaker.

1. Next meeting will review Use of Force Policy. Need ideas.
2. Last meeting forwarded email to Mayor, Mr. Rickman, Mr. Harness and CPC chairs (see attachment). Awaiting response within the month.

V. GUEST SPEAKER

A. Jessica Tyler – Training Director for APD

- a. Born and raised in Albuquerque. Degree in criminology. Sheriff's Department for for 16 years. Now runs the training academy.
- b. New officers are vetted and recruited. Process takes 26-29 weeks.
 - 1) 15 weeks basic training
 - 2) 4 weeks with Field Training Officer
 - 3) 40 hour Crisis Intervention, 40 hour Investigation training.
- c. Every two years officers receive 40 hours of new training. Includes hate crimes, mental health, and domestic abuse.
- d. State sets up lessons plans for basic academy and provides minimal guidelines. State recommends 16 weeks of training, but APD does extra 11 weeks.
- e. Recently all officers (over 840) completed use of force training: 2 days ground training, 1 day tactics, 1 day putting it all together. Includes report writing. 50,000 training hours. Supervisors too.
- f. Celina: Monitor is constantly looking at training. Approved Use of Force. Policy will be reviewed in 6 months.
- g. Difficult to change culture. Officers report change of thinking and handling situations as a result of training.
- h. Questions from attendees included:
 - 1) Is reactive model still used? No state is moving away from it. Replace by Response to Force and Resistance. More critical thinking, less table based.
 - 2) New trainers vs. old? Trainers are all taught the newest material.
 - 3) How do you measure change? Use of force incidents are down.
 - 4) Does it help? Det. Gabaldon gave example of experience of demonstrator hitting him in the head with a rock. His response was different and more measured than would have been in the past.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:05 PM, seconded, and approved by voice vote

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Richard Deichsel - Secretary