MEETING MINUTES
NORTHEAST AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2016
6:30 PM
NORTH DOMINGO BACA MULTIGENERATIONAL CENTER
CLASSROOM 5
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

In Attendance:
• Eric Olivas, Chair
• Brennan Williams
• Dorothy Woodward
• Lieutenant Joe Burke
• Nicole Chavez-Lucero, APD Community Outreach Coordinator
• Officer Simon Drobik
• Celina Espinoza, APD Communications and Community Outreach Director
• Jessie Lawrence, CABQ Contract Facilitator

Approximately 70 members of the public were in attendance.

1. Call to Order/Welcome – Brennan Williams (6:30)

Brennan Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed participants to the meeting.


Dorothy Woodward moved to approve the January 2017 meeting minutes as written. Eric Olivas seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Eric Olivas moved to approve the February 2017 meeting agenda as written. Dorothy Woodward seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

Lieutenant Joe Burke responded to two questions from the January 2017 meeting. In response to a question about response times in relation to 12-hour shifts, he stated that the crime analysis unit is still working on the research, but response times have gone down for auto burglaries. In response to a question about remote starters, he stated that none of the auto thefts reported have been thefts of vehicles using remote starters, but cautioned that thieves could learn to manipulate that technology.

Lieutenant Burke shared information about the Police and Community Together (PACT) unit. He stated that the unit has been focused on community outreach, and the next step will be to obtain detectives for all of the PACT units. He stated that the unit plans to begin a Books with Badges program, in which officers would visit elementary schools, read with students, and promote literacy and positive interactions with officers.


Janet Butts did not attend due to illness. Eric Olivas stated that the Neighborhood Watch Advocates Committee plans to prepare an annual report in March summarizing its first full year and making recommendations.

5. **New Business: Status of Previous Recommendations and Annual Report (7:00)**

Eric Olivas stated that the March 2017 meeting guest speaker will be Denise Torres, chair of the NM Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission. He noted that the NECPC would like to invite a judge or other representative of the judiciary as a future guest speaker.

Eric Olivas stated that he received responses from APD to the three recommendations resubmitted in October 2016 and expressed appreciation to APD.

Eric Olivas presented a draft recommendation asking APD to codify the tasks of the community outreach coordinator and provide quarterly updates on the progress of community outreach (Attachment A). The public was invited to provide input on this draft recommendation.

Dorothy Woodward moved to approve the NECPC 2016 Annual Report as written (Attachment B). Brennan Williams seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.
6. **Guest Speaker: Chief Gordon Eden, APD (7:10)**

Chief Gordon Eden presented information about the importance of the CPCs as community entities and about recent changes at APD including improvements in recruiting, a new public service aide pilot project, and coordinated crime briefings with the district attorney’s office. Meeting attendees asked many questions about topics including the sustainability of CPCs, discrimination, protection of the right to protest, the public’s role in the development of APD policy, neighborhood crime, APD culture, behavioral health triage centers, immigration policies, and crime reporting.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM. The next meeting will be on March 14 at 6:30 PM.
Attachment A: Draft Recommendation

Creating Positive Change

Northeast Area Command
COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
RECOMMENDATION

DATE SUBMITTED: ___________Seven (7) business days after submission

RECEIPT DUE: ___________Twenty (20) business days after submission

APD RESPONSE DUE: ___________Sixty (60) business days after submission

RATIONALE:
Currently, the APD community outreach director is tasked with helping to coordinate outreach and communications efforts on behalf of each of the 6 community policing councils among other responsibilities. Despite these vast responsibilities on behalf of councils, there is no defined oversight of this position by the councils it serves. Given the broad reach of this task and the effect that unequal or inconsistent outreach can potentially have on each council’s ability to function and serve the citizens of Albuquerque, we recommend that the responsibilities of the director be more specifically defined in some areas. This recommendation will also ensure continuity of the CPCs should turnover in this position occur. In order to make CPCs accessible, diverse and inclusive through high quality and consistent outreach efforts, we recommend the following:

RECOMMENDATION:
We recommend that the Chief require the community outreach director to post notice on the department’s social media accounts, including Nextdoor, Twitter, and Facebook, one (1) week prior to each meeting in each area command, and one (1) day prior as a second reminder. While individual council members and councils often independently make this effort, they do not have the larger social media presence afforded to the department. This notice should include the correct location, time and date of the meeting as well as the general topic, if available. The director should receive this
information well in advance of these deadlines from each CPC; however, if information is not timely available, the director should reach out to the respective CPC chair. The director should also work with media outlets, including the Albuquerque Journal, the Albuquerque Free Press and ABQ365, to be sure that meeting locations, times, and dates are accurate in publications these outlets release to the community. We also recommend that the director be required to publish a quarterly report to all CPC chairs of outreach efforts conducted on behalf of CPCs during that quarter. This should include a summary of meetings with faith, veterans, homeless, mental health, learning institutions, community radio, print press, youth/teen service, neighborhood associations, and other community groups. This quarterly report will ensure that the director is accountable for outreach and will allow council members to offer guidance on how to improve outreach in targeted ways.
The Northeast Area Command Community Policing Council 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 provide 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 24th 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 9th 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 31st. 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 16th and April 23rd, 2016.

Public **Summit Meetings** of all six CPC Board members were called and facilitated by the Citizen Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) on March 26th, July 25th 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 15th and November 16th, 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 28th and November 18th, 2016.

**Nicole Chavez-Lucero and Celina Espinoza** convened a **Touchpoint Meeting** on procedures and public attendance with the CPC Boards on Oct 3rd, 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 Meeting**s 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 31st 2016 no written response has been received for any of the recommendations ever submitted by NECPC***