

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**VALLEY AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016**  
**LOS DURANES COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**ALBUQUERQUE, NM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Maxine Cowton**

The meeting was called to order at 10:02AM.

**II. COUNCILOR ROLL CALL: Acting Secretary Richard Deichsel**

**Present:**

Officer John Burley

Maxine Cowton

Richard Deichsel

Edwina Kiro

Kathleen O'Malley<sup>11</sup>

Jennifer Rhea

James Souter

Paul Watson

Joan Wierzba

**Absent:**

Officer Jerome Armijo

Officer Carmelita Michaud

**Also Present:**

Consultants:

Lt. Art Sanchez

Sgt. Terysa Bowie

Resource Director:

Celina Espinoza, APD, Communications and Community Outreach Director

Community members:

There were 6 community members present - see attached sign in sheet

**I. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 16, 2015 MINUTES**

*Note: Councilor Rhea requested the word "attempted" be added between the words "her" and "removal" to the "Note" in the November 18, 2015 Minutes.*

A Motion to approve the December 16, 2015 Minutes was made, Seconded, and approved by voice vote.

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A Motion to approve the agenda was made, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

**I. OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**A. Election of 2016 Officers: Councilor Edwina Kiro**

1. There was only one nominee for each position
  - a. Chair - James Souter
  - b. Vice Chair - Edwina Kiro
  - c. Secretary - Richard Deichsel
2. Each Nominee spoke regarding their goals and objectives if elected.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiro to elect the nominees for their respective positions, Councilor Watson seconded, and all Councilors approved by a voice vote.

**B. Draw for Civilian Councilor term periods of Twelve or Twenty Four Months, beginning January 2016**

1. Twelve Month Term
  - a. Maxine Cowton
  - b. Richard Deichsel
  - c. Edwina Kiro
  - d. James Souter
2. Twenty Four Month Term
  - a. Jennifer Rhea
  - b. Kathleen O'Malley
  - c. Paul Watson
  - d. Joan Wierzba

**C. Announcement of Installation of Officers: Chair Maxine Cowton**

1. Thanked Council for support in 2015
2. Newly elected officers for 2016 installed

**D. Opening Remarks: Chair James Souter**

1. Wants to focus
  - a. Community Policing
  - b. DOJ requirements in Settlement Agreement
  - c. Mental Health - use of force issues with no arrests
  - d. Use of force CIT and CID statistics - get to Council to take back to

community

**E. Organization Assignments: Chair James Souter**

1. Have a Directors meeting on Wednesday, February 3rd - 10:00 AM at the Los Duranes Community Center.
2. Assigned Neighborhood Associations to each Councilor
  - a. Asked that Councilors attend meetings at their assigned associations
  - b. Communicate CPCs work and update APD compliance progress on Settlement Agreement
  - c. Address progress with associations
3. Officers dictation of reports - Chair James Souter
4. Recruiting for APD at high school level - Councilor Watson
5. MVD on what to do when stopped by a Police Officer - Councilors

O'Malley and Kiro

5. Advertising to get word out to public re what our officers are doing - Secretary Deichsel
6. Guidelines - Councilor Wiersba
7. Directions to get other entities to CPC meetings - Councilor Rhea

## **I. REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **A. Crime Report: Officer Burley**

1. Reviewed Property Crime reports with 2014 and 2015 totals, plus Jan. 1-31 2015 and Jan.1-20, 2016 totals
2. Discussed what to do if someone is breaking into your house while you are there
  - a. Call 911 and stay on the phone with dispatcher
  - b. Lock yourselves in a room/area of house, if possible

### **B. New Business:**

1. Chair Souter proposed starting meeting at 9:30, and ending at 11:30 to, if needed, to allow an extended time period for Citizen comments meetings
  - a. Discussion ensued about having better attendance with evening attendance
  - b. Councilor Rhea will research best meeting times to improve citizen attendance
2. Consultant Lt. Sanchez advised the Council to focus more on how to improve Community/APD relationship, following the DOJ's mandate for the CPCs
3. Consultant Lt. Sanchez suggested the Councilors advise their assigned associations, if they wished an officer to speak at their meetings, to put in a request through Scott Seibel's office (505-761-8805 / SSeibel@cabq.gov), and give some lead time.

### **C. Old Business:**

1. Councilor Watson would like to discuss the growing movement towards scientifically-based, or so-called "evidence-based policing at the February Meeting

## **I. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Bill Kass:

- 1) APD is stonewalling on us of force
- 2) APD needs to communicate clear objectives to the community
- 3) CPC needs to have community input during the meeting - not at the end

GP:

- 1) Hard to get community to voice it's concerns
- 2) Re Excessive Force Policy - get away from policy, and get with concept
- 3) Why are Councilors subject to back ground checks?

Barbara Grady:

- 1) Appreciates having a voice
- 2) Need to focus less on what's wrong, and more on what's right with APD

Tony Pirard:

- 1) The media needs to be more truthful and open
- 2) Information is being suppressed
- 3) CPOA Type 1
- 4) There is no community involvement on what needs to be fixed with the Department
- 5) The DOJ is not being open with the public
- 6) What is Community Policing - it's a grey area

Cipriano:

- 1) Officers are frustrated
- 2) Hands are tied - can't speak up
- 3) Leadership needs to be looked at
- 4) Look at business at hand
- 5) Applauds the Council

## **I. MISC.**

### **A. Documents handed out by Resource Director Celina Espinoza**

1. Procedural Orders (SOP 2-56) - Responding to Calls
2. POP report

*Note: All reports are available on the APD website*

## ***IX: ADJOURNMENT***

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:28 AM by Councilor Cowton, seconded by Councilor Wierba, and approved by voice vote

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Richard Deichsel - Secretary