

**MEETING MINUTES
VALLEY AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015
10:00 AM
LOS DURANES COMMUNITY CENTER
ALBUQUERQUE, NM**

Council members in attendance:

- Maxine Cowton, Chair
- Officer John Burley
- Dr. Kathleen O'Malley
- Jennifer Rhea
- Joan Wierzba
- James Souter

Absent:

- Officer Carmelita Michaud
- Officer Jerome Armijo

Consultants:

- Sgt. Kenneth Johnston, APD consultant
- Diane Grover, CABQ Contract Facilitator

Resource persons:

- Commander Donovan R. Olvera
- Celina Espinoza, Communications and Community Outreach Director

Call to Order

Chair Maxine Cowton called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM, noting that a quorum was present.

1. Introduction and welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees and introduced the new Valley CPC member, Jim Souter.

The Chair noted that there are two additional applications for membership on the Valley CPC that are being reviewed at this time.

2. Approval of February 18, 2015, meeting minutes

Officer Burley moved to approve February 18, 2015, minutes; Dr. O'Malley seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Approval of March 18, 2015, agenda

Ms. Wierzba moved to approve the March 18, 2015, agenda; Ms. Rhea seconded; all were in favor. March 18, 2015, Agenda approved unanimously.

4. APD Report for March, 2015

Recommended web site for Council members:

www.crimemapping.com gives crime statistics by command (i.e. Valley Area Command) or by types of crime. Last month's report showed armed robberies from Rio Grande to I-25 along I-40. Parameter for time spans between 3 days and 4 months are available.

Commander Olvera announced the future web site for the Valley Area Command and expects it to be available by the end of April. www.neareacommand.com has been established.

5. Jennifer Rhea Report on Citizen's Police Academy

Ms. Rhea and the Chair have been attending the Citizen's Police Academy. Ms. Rhea stated it is a 12 week program, 2 nights a week for 3 hours a night. Ms. Rhea highly recommends the course. The course notebook was presented to the Council.

Per Commander Olvera, of the 45 class participants some are neighborhood association members; CPC member; oversight members; community members and youth that want to be officers. Ms. Rhea encouraged members to attend the next class which is scheduled for May.

The chair stated that of the 1500 applicants there were 20 graduates. Sgt. Johnston gave some specifics about all the testing including personality tests, interviewing, lie detector tests and requirements of the trainees. After graduation there are continuing refresher courses every 6 months called "maintenance of effort" training (MOE). Specialized forces require additional focused training.

Ms. Wierzba stated that there has been a rash of break-ins in her Thomas Village neighborhood. She appreciates the extra policing that was done in her neighborhood during this period. Police have suggested neighbors keep garage doors closed.

6. Meeting adjourned

The chair called attendees' attention to the time at 11:30. . Ms. Wierzba moved to adjourn the meeting, Officer Burley seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:30

Old Business for next meeting

- Sgt. Johnston and Ms. Rhea will meet before the April 15th meeting to draft information regarding the possibility of including an APD Academy course in Albuquerque Public Schools curriculum.
- O'Malley requested the April agenda include discussion on how to reach out to the community.
- Celina suggested that the Council members submit written questions to the Chair so they can get on the agenda. Council members were asked to send their questions to maxcowton@q.com