MEETING MINUTES
VALLEY AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL
Thursday, September 28, 2017
6:00 PM
ALBUQUERQUE POLICE ACADEMY TRAINING CENTER
5412 2ND NW
ALBUQUERQUE, NM

In Attendance:

- Rowan Wymark
- Edwina Kiro
- Lava Sheets
- Angelo Metzgar, Safe city strike force
- Lt. David Rogers
- Sgt. Nicolas Sanders, APD
- Officer Regina Sanchez
- Detective Christopher Whigham
- David Gold, Facilitator
- Yvette Marentes, CPC Admin

Approximately 4 members of the public were in attendance.

6:00 Call to order/Welcome

Meeting called to order at 6:13 pm
Determination of a Quorum

Quorum of 3 was met at the start of the meeting

Approve Agenda

No approval of Agenda was made

Approve August 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

No approval of minutes was made

Lt. Rogers introduced himself to the group along with Angelo Metzgar –

Angelo Metzgar is with the Safe city strike force assists APD with nuisance properties, uniform housing codes and zoning codes. They go in and vacate problem properties if they can and they have also demolished a couple properties in the last couple years. However, cost is a big problem, they do not have enough funding to demolish most properties so a lien is put on the property but the money is never seen because the property is not worth as much.

In order to determine which homes to vacate or demolish, they look at safety of the community and fire damage as a priority. There will be a task force created to hopefully raise more money from the federal level to assist with projects. There was a discussion within the group about looking into taking the liens off the property and then trying to collect payment through taxes but it is difficult they may be looking at foreclosing on the properties.

Safe City Strike force does work with commercial property as well however it is hard. If there is no owner to be there to say get off the property they have a tough time kicking people out that are on the properties. People are encouraged to put on the no trespassing signs that give police authority to remove the people that are on the property. Get the signs that actually have the ordinance on the sign otherwise the officers cannot do anything.

If you are reporting to 311 get reference numbers when calling so that you can follow up to see if anything has been done with the service call.

6:10-7:10 Detective Whigham, coordinator of the APD lapel camera program. He will explain how they work and take questions and comments.

Detective Christopher Whigham – Lapel Cameras: What and How ***PowerPoint Presentation attached to meeting minutes***

Due to a small turnout Detective Whigham will be presenting a smaller version of what he normally does. He will be back in January for the full presentation so be sure to let your neighbors know.
APD is the first police force in the nation to fully deploy on body cameras. We are still the only federally mandated department to wear on body cameras. Soon APD will be moving to a new system, a different model of camera, there are still things that need to be approved by the monitoring team. CAT integration and two cameras, better battery life, more storage etc. Camera policy is in its second revision. There was a lot of research done do these cameras there were 9 in the running texted with field and tactile officers as well. There were anonymous surveys done and a lot of input was put in to determine which camera was best.

Recording is mandatory however citizen may request to not be recorded however, that is up to the officer. Once rescue or medical shows up they do turn off the camera.

He first went over the rules of engagement with audience participants, record during this presentation when a disruptive incident occurs because one never knows when something is going to happen, we cannot predict people so may not be aware of what they are going to do. He will have the participants required the entire incident to see what happens. However if there is no criminal investigation or incident, the officer doesn’t need to be recording. Officers are still getting used to using these cameras too. They are still adapting policy which is on an annual cycle of revision.

Detective Whigham then went over the on-body camera history, August 2010 APD began testing of new body-worn camera systems. We are the first largest party in the US to deploy the system. They were deployed department wide in January of 2011, mandatory in June 2011 and started testing alternate body worn cameras in February 2012. Mandatory recording of all citizen contacts started in May of 2012, many cases were behind dismissed due to lack of video. Around 7 cameras were tested before 2013 when the TASER camera was presented in February of that year, pilote testing began later in the year. November 2014 DOJ settlement agreement commits to on-body camera policy and use and then in December 2014 a committee was formed to create a new camera policy. RFP request for proposal was made in early 2015, December of 2015 the policy was revised. Then in January of 2016 UNM completed a study, March of 2016 the on-body camera policy was approved. November 2016 new policy revised and new cameras are going about to be rolled out to the force.

Detective Whigham there are many different technologies around however APD is not moving forward with those due to the cost factor at this time. It is good to see the different tech that has come and who knows what will change or happen in the next 5 years.

Detective Whigham then went over policy, they found that we think the department policy there was no definition of evidence. So his team created the definition.

Evidence – Recordings that contain content known at the time of the recording, to be associated with criminal activity, are assigned a case number, and are annotated as evidence by the submitting department personnel in the property section of the report.
UNM research study focused on gathering information form data and officer focus groups to inform quality policy for APD and other departments. Overall, officers supported the use of the cameras.

Detective Whigham also went over all of the different types of cameras that were used, a lot of the technology that was out there was not great. The cameras from 2010 were very small, bad battery life, SD card based, very difficult to use. He showed the group different types of cameras and also pointed out the cameras that the participants were using. He showed the different parts of the camera and explained what they are. He also demonstrated how to start the cameras, basically went over the full operation of the cameras. There is a constant loop or buffer pre-record that goes on and on all day with the camera until recording is imitated by an officer. He also went over how officers can upload the information on the cameras. There are basically points that they officers connect to and the information is uploaded while charging the device.

Currently there are about 600,000 videos that are stored. An average 46,000 videos per month over 6,000 hours of video per month is collected. Everything is tracked in terms of who watched a video and when.

Detective Whigham encouraged everyone to go on youtube and look up the following: New York Times body camera survey

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKaTMrVRYn8

7:10-8:00 Discussion of CPC mission statement

How we can follow it and what should we do in terms of our community - police relationship, plus some brainstorming as what we can do together to come up with proactive decisions to address our overall crime problem and how such decisions can become recommendations. If time does not allow for all of this to be covered then we will make some time in October’s meeting to continue it.

Due to the shortage of attendees, it was decided that this discussion will be put on the agenda at a future meeting.

Discussion was made within the group questioning if the location of the Valley can be moved to the Del Sol Room for our meeting as opposed to the current location.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52

Next Meeting: October 26, 2017

Presenters: APD Crisis Intervention Team

November: DA Torrez(both are subject to change)