



MINUTES
OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 14, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room –second floor
10890 San Pablo Avenue

Call to Order

Committee Chair Nick Arzio called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Roll Call

Members in Attendance: Chair Nick Arzio, Vice-Chair Marty Takimoto, Eugene Go, Linda Jolivet, and Bruce Yow

Member not in Attendance: Mollie Hazen

City Council/Staff in Attendance: Acting Chief Paul Keith, Lt. David Hartung, Sgt. Ian Wong and Cpl. Brian Elder

Guests/Members of the Public: Cordell Hindler

1. Approval of Minutes:

Chair Arzio asked that section 2 be amended to reflect the work that Member Hazen did during National Night Out which included riding with Chief Keith and Councilmember Quinto, attending 4 block parties and taking numerous photographs of the event.

Vice-Chair Takimoto asked that section 3 be amended to reflect that Cordell Hindler, a member of the public who regularly attends CPC meetings, is a resident of the City of Richmond.

Chair Arzio asked that section 4 (subsection f) be amended to clarify that it is the CPC that is looking to explore the issue of sole control of its entire budget and should not be interpreted as that Chair Arzio himself wants control of the budget.

Chair Arzio asked that section 4 (subsection h) be amended to reflect that the creation of the CPC charter review and recommendation subcommittee was done by unanimous consent without objection by the members of the committee and not by proclamation as previously stated.

Moved and carried (Go/Takimoto) to adopt an amended version of the August 10, 2016, meeting minutes.

Aye: Chair Arzio, Vice-Chair Takimoto, Member Yow, Member Go and Member Jolivet.

Nay: None

Abstentions: None

2. Council / Staff Liaison Reports:

Cpl. Elder discussed the two recent package thefts which had occurred were crimes of opportunity. Video surveillance from both crimes was uploaded onto Youtube, Twitter and Nixle. An arrest was made in one of the package theft cases and the stolen property was recovered.

Cpl. Elder identified that there is an existing email address which is dedicated for use by the Crime Prevention Committee (crimeprevention@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us). The email responses will be vetted by a designee at the Police Department before being passed along to the Crime Prevention Committee.

Cpl. Elder noted that there is no formal event scheduled in which a member of the City is providing a presentation to the CPC regarding the Brown Act and/or Parliamentary Procedure. A request can be made of the City at a later date if there is still a need for the presentation.

Cpl. Elder presented the CPC with images of the CPC 10'x10' easy-up canopy and table banner which had been ordered and delivered to the Police Department. The canopy is available immediately and can be used at any of the CPC functions as they see fit.

Cpl. Elder spoke about the status of the CPC work plan presentation and provided Chair Arzio with the template required by the City for the Council Presentation.

Cpl. Elder announced that the agenda bill for prospective Crime Prevention Committee member Nathan "Spike" DeClue has been submitted. The item is scheduled for the September 20th meeting to be voted on by members of City Council.

Sgt. Wong announced two upcoming events being hosted by ECPD: Tri-City Safety Day and Pokemon with a Cop (9-24). Restaurant Week is also an upcoming event in El Cerrito to promote the local businesses.

3. Comments from the Public:

Chief Paul Keith provided the CPC with an update regarding a recent community meeting held to address the issue of marijuana regulation in El Cerrito. There will be at least one more community meeting in regards to the issue in the near future.

4. Discussion of Crime Prevention Committee Activities:

- a) Illegal dumping subcommittee updates (Chair- Arzio/ Vice-Chair Takimoto).
 - No updates from subcommittee members.
- b) Neighborhood Watch outreach subcommittee updates (Chair-Arzio/ Member Go).
 - Chair Arzio provided the CPC with email communications he received from Richmond resident Cordell Hindler which covered methods to start a Neighborhood Watch program. The subcommittee will have additional updates in future meetings.

- c) CPC charter review and recommendation subcommittee update (Takimoto/Jolivet).
- Vice-Chair Takimoto provided the CPC with an update on their work reviewing the existing CPC charter. The subcommittee feels that National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch should remain a collaborative effort between the CPC and Police Department. More work can be done to grow both events with a collaborative effort from CPC/Police Department. The subcommittee suggested that the CPC move away from doing home security inspections due to the decrease in frequency of requests for the service and because the Police Department had been completing the inspections. The requirement for members of the CPC to undergo a background check will remain in place. A group discussion developed and the idea of creating informational crime prevention Youtube videos was suggested as an excellent future focus of the CPC. Vice-Chair highlighted the recent increase of package thefts as an idea to be addressed at by the CPC. The subcommittee suggested that the charter remain as written, however, there is a need for clarification as to the role of the CPC in National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch.
- d) CPC recruitment event subcommittee updates (Arzio/Go)
- The subcommittee met and reserved the room at the Cerrito Theater for the event on October 3rd 6-7PM. The subcommittee requested a budget of \$150 for the event (food/drink) which was approved (Chief Keith). Chair Arzio also suggested that money left over from the budget could be used for advertising. Cpl. Elder also volunteered to use the Police Department Twitter and Nixle account to advertise the event.

Moved and carried (Go/ Jolivet) to request a budget of \$150 for the October 3rd recruitment event and accept the offer for assistance with advertising from the Police Department.

Aye: Chair Arzio, Vice-Chair Takimoto, Member Yow, Member Go and Member Jolivet.

Nay: None

Abstentions: None

- e) Identify avenues for community members to voice concerns regarding police activities and actions.
- Richmond resident Cordell Hindler provided comment on his experience with an El Cerrito Police Officer. Chief Keith and Lt. Hartung advised the committee on the formal process for reporting a complaint against a member of the Police Department. The process can be completed in via email, by telephone and/or in person with a supervisor at the Police Department.
- f) Request from Interim Chief Keith for a future project to be headed by the CPC.
- Chief Keith spoke to the committee and presented a concept that they may consider developing a home security seminar. The seminar would partner with home security experts to present examples of current security products available. The seminar could be held later in the evening to capture a different crowd than those who attend the Home Security Expo.

A subcommittee was created (Vice-Chair Takimoto, Member Jolivet, and Member Go) to explore the development of a home security seminar.

5. Membership:

None

6. Communication Report (Including Neighborhood Watch / Home Security Report):

None

7. Adjournment:

Moved and carried; adjourned at 9:05PM. Unanimous.