



MINUTES
OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room – second floor
10890 San Pablo Avenue

1. Call to Order:

Committee Chair Mollie Hazen called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

2. Roll Call:

Members in Attendance: Chair Mollie Hazen, Marty Takimoto, Eugene Go, Bruce Yow and Nick Arzio

Members not in Attendance: Vice-Chair DeClue and Member Jolivet

City Council/Staff in Attendance: Chief Paul Keith, Council Member Greg Lyman and Cpl. Brian Elder

Guests/Members of the Public: Cordell Hindler, Christian Thiel, Rosa Esquivel, Mike Freeman, And Michelle Mendieta Mitchell

3. Approval of Minutes:

Member Takimoto noted that the approval of minute's section should reflect the individual member's names and not the word "unanimous" because there was an abstention from voting. Additionally, two minor spelling errors were also identified.

Moved and carried to adopt the amended version of the May 10th 2017, meeting minutes as written.

Aye: Chair Hazen, Member Takimoto, Member Go and Member Yow

Nay: None

Abstentions: Member Arzio

4. Council / Staff Liaison Reports:

Chief Paul Keith spoke to the CPC membership regarding some of the recent things the Police Department has been working on which include: a dispatch contract with Richmond PD, a server and records management software upgrade and text to 911 capabilities. Chief Keith also spoke about a strong arm robbery which occurred in the El Cerrito Plaza and provided an update on the status of the investigation and overall safety awareness for anyone in the community.

Community Member Rosa Esquivel made a suggestion that El Cerrito begin to use a smart phone application similar to an app called "BART Watch" where members of the community can quickly and accurately report crime or suspicious activity to Police.

Cpl. Elder reminded everyone that National Night Out happens on August 1st, 2017 and asked anyone who is interested in hosting a party to submit an electronic form on the City website.

Council Member Lyman spoke to the CPC regarding several topics which included: the continued use of the property where the Senior Center is currently located, community Wildfire Prevention Plan, a review of the current City Council goals, accessory dwelling units policy, the EC Recycling Center will now be accepting household hazardous waste, passed a 2 year City budget.

5. Comments from the Public:

Cordell Hindler brought a sample job description for the position of treasurer and passed the information out to committee members. Mr. Hindler is waiting to speak with Vice-Chair DeClue regarding the chance to solicit participation in Neighborhood Watch and the CPC from High School students. Mr. Hindler also made the suggestion that Neighborhood Watch meetings could be held at local club houses for a fee.

Michael Freeman spoke to the committee regarding the concerns of the group People Power and asked that the CPC endorse a policy change that deals with some of the issues surrounding El Cerrito's sanctuary city status.

Michelle Mendieta Mitchell made a similar request that the CPC endorse the policy change recommended by the People Power group.

Chief Keith provided some information on the current practice of the El Cerrito Police Department as it relates to asking a person their nationality and/or immigration status.

Council Member Lyman felt that the CPC was not an appropriate venue to make a policy recommendation to the City Council.

6. Discussion of Crime Prevention Committee Activities:

- a) Neighborhood Watch/ NNO Outreach Subcommittee updates (Arzio/Go/Takimoto/Hazen)
 - Member Takimoto suggested that the committee examine specific goals to growing the Neighborhood Watch program and working with the Police Department.
- b) Crime Prevention Committee Seminar Planning Subcommittee (Takimoto/Jolivet/Hazen)
 - No action on this item.
- c) Crime Prevention Educational Materials Subcommittee (Takimoto/Jolivet/Hazen)
 - Subcommittee is preparing and updating two handouts (informational flyer and general information about Neighborhood Watch), when completed the documents will be forwarded to the liaison for review.
- d) Crime Prevention Committee Membership Requirements Subcommittee (Arzio/Jolivet)
 - Member Arzio believes the CPC membership requirements should be in writing, each requirement should have a rationale and the requirements should be applied equally.

- e) El Cerrito Police Department Nixle blotter (Jolivet)
 - No action on this item.

- f) National Night Out event Tuesday, August 1st 2017 Subcommittee (Go/DeClue/Hazen)
 - The subcommittee met and made some initial suggestions on some of the items to be purchased to advertise the NNO event. The subcommittee will meet with Cpl. Elder to further discuss advertisement and give-a-way items.

- g) El Cerrito Smoking Pollution Protection Ordinance (Arizo)
 - Member Arzio provided the committee with an overview of the El Cerrito Municipal Code which covers this topic. Chief Keith made mention of a specific issue regarding this topic that the Police Department is working to mediate. Chief Keith added that voluntary compliance of the Municipal Code is the focus of the Police Department; however, the policy will be enforced when appropriate.

7. Membership:

No items to discuss.

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

Cpl. Elder indicated that there were no email or voice mail messages for the committee. A letter addressed to the Crime Prevention Committee was given to Chair Hazen.

9. Adjournment:

Moved and carried unanimous. Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.