

Lakeview Crime Prevention District

Meeting date: February 25, 2016

St. Dominic Rectory

6 p.m.

**1. Call meeting to order at 6:05**

**2. Rollcall**

Val Cupit

Jeb Bruneau

Joe Landry, Jr.

Wally Landry

Nancy Lytle

Freddy Yoder

John Grillot

Martin Landrieu

Brian Anderson

**3. Minutes 1/28/16**

Jeb moved to approve, John Grillot seconded. All were in favor.

**4. New Business**

a. Introduction of our new board members appointed by Senator Wesley Bishop: Ann LeBlanc and Joe Landry Jr. Reid Raymond no longer on the board because no mayor appointment available. This was just learned right before the meeting. Plan is to try and figure way to get Reid on the board. Wally agreed to resign to allow Reid to be on the board. Later in the meeting, it was discussed that we should think about ways to get Reid on the board without having Wally resign.

Also mentioned was that Stephanie Hilferty appointed Freddy Yoder and Nancy Lytle

b. Crime stats by Sgt. Rene Benjamin, see attached. Of note, is that with two robberies, had the reporters called sooner, police may have had a chance to catch the perpetrators. He also attached information from Bill Ford on cost breakdown of vehicles (attached).

Sgt. Benjamin also talked about vehicle purchases. He recommends purchasing three this year and purchasing one next year. Three purchased now would come in July or August. LCPD now has seven cars two of which are loaners. Three cars are marked, one truck is marked and the rest are unmarked. The unmarked are really not outfitted for patrols. On any given day, between hours of 3 p.m. and 7 a.m., there are seven officers on the street.

Larry said there is not money in the budget for three cars but only for two and if moneys are spent on patrols as they have been so far this year, there may not be enough in the budget for three cars. Larry will scrub the budget and see if can get three cars.

The two new cars that were approved last year will be here closer to February and March now, not January. No motion needed to go ahead and approve purchase of two additional cars because already in the budget. Sgt. Benjamin asked to order those immediately and the board would revisit a third vehicle depending on budget.

c. Financial Report by CPA Larry Jacobi, see attached.

Essentially above. Larry will come to the board in March and advise whether there is enough for a third car. He will have a better idea on trend for patrols at that time.

There was more discussion on cars. In response to Wally's question, Sgt. Benjamin said that it takes three to four months to get a car once ordered. Martin said he is not sure we need three cars. Larry said we definitely do not have the money in the budget now because unusually the city only collected 18K in taxes in February which is far less than usual. This is because City extended payout period to subdivisions. Larry estimates \$200K coming in March. He won't know if budget can handle another vehicle until the end of March.

Brian mentioned that according to the 2016 budget, we allotted for four vehicles this year. The 830K revenue is still accurate. But surplus was less. Service patrols will be 676K at current rate which means we are spending more than we budgeted. Larry will keep us updated.

d. Brian Anderson, camera program subcommittee, see attached (moved up from old business).

Committee is made up of Val Cupit, Ralph Schindler, Wally Landry, and Brian Anderson. They have met twice publicly, third meeting did not occur because there was no quorum. Richard Bordelon has been heavily involved. Brian emailed to board 31 page report which is Request for Proposal on camera program. He went over the most important pages, 19-21, attached. A lot of hard work went into the document. Within next week will give final draft. Brian read from these pages.

Freddy asked about award criteria. This appears on page 22. Brian read from that page.

- Capability of the Proposer to meet or exceed the required specifications
- Qualifications and experience of the proposer
- Qualifications and experience of key project and operational support personnel
- Technical solution

- Compensation and fees

By March he is hoping to have a final for the board to approve. Asking that everyone review the draft within two weeks. Any comments should be forwarded to Brian.

Val made a motion to have everyone on the board review and get comments to Brian by March 10. Ann seconded. All were in favor.

d. Status of the publication of our quarterly newsletter-

i. Address signs. Nancy brought old one and new ones. \$19.50 (Reflective). \$12.50 (not reflective). This is something people buy themselves directly from the vendor and hang it themselves. Information on how to purchase will be put in newsletter.

Martin moved to allow Nancy to post in newsletter the information concerning the address signs where they may be purchased. John seconded. All were in favor.

ii. Quarterly newsletter. Haven't had one since 2010. Cynthia Hayes will be editor and coordinator of the articles and statistics and work with Nancy. Nancy requesting that Sgt. Benjamin gives letter as well as version of most important statistics to put in there and that there be a president's letter. For example, we want to highlight increased patrols.

**Contents:**

President's letter (Freddy)

LCPD Meeting Schedule (Nancy, Cynthia)

LCPD Escort Service (Phone #, Nancy, Cynthia)

LCPD Patrols (Sgt. Benjamin)

2015 Crime Stats (Sgt. Benjamin)

Board of Commissioners and Revised Statute Information

**Recommend adding:**

Order Form for LCPD Alley Address Plates (Nancy)

Safety tips (Val Cupit)

Lock it or Lose it (Val Cupit)

Crime Watch Program (Reid)

iii. Status of car stickers. Nancy is looking at a price. She needs more time to research.

Jeb raised concerns about dated Facebook page and how other people are posting information that perhaps we should be posting. Do we want proactive or static page? Need clarity on who is posting. Jeb: we need to discuss.

Martin made a motion that whoever is in charge of updating the website on a monthly basis to post a link of LCPD on Facebook page so information on crime updates, meeting minutes and other public information is readily available. Wally seconded. Further discussion and Martin amended his motion to add Reid as administrator so he can add information himself instead of asking. Wally seconded All were in favor.

Discussion turned to just how much we want on Facebook page. Freddy raised concerns that someone on the board posts information not authorized by Sgt. Benjamin. If information is posted too quickly it could hinder investigations. Problem is that sometimes official information does not come for two to three days later from headquarters. Right now, Val, in her role as LCIA disseminates earlier information via email. She should not be doing that as LCPD representative. Question was raised whether to give Sgt. Benjamin access. Will discuss at next meeting.

Freddy does not want this board to disseminate info unless go through Rene. Eg. Harrison. Info disseminate too quick before police could investigate. Board should not get involved in disseminating that information. If made public by right channels. Val, only channel that is true public information office is NOPD. Two to three days later. Comes from HQ. Nancy, I think there is for the most part from NOPD bulletin, facts checked, and to me that is safest information to put out with regards to our board. Don't think jump gun ahead of him. Val, do we want Sgt. Benjamin to disperse information right after it happens to other neighborhood watch organizations, not until approved by police department. (Freddy). Jeb, how do you do it now. Puts out general information now. Sends to Val, Val usually sends out to email. Freddy, created barrier Val crime watch as LCIA. She cannot change hats. Don't want it coming from LCPD. She injects concern and information to general public. We could get in trouble in long run if we do it by LCPD. Val is Lakeview crime watch and does that that way. Because of nature, can't participate in FB comments. Freddy agrees. Board as a whole.

Should we give access to Rene to FB so that the type of information that Val puts out on emails through LCIA gets on LCPD Facebook? Martin would like to think that over. Will be on next month's agenda.

## **5. Old Business**

- a. Leland Champaign has resigned. His appointment was by Nick Lorusso whose term expired. He has also started new job that would take a lot of his time. Freddy thanked Leland for his years of service.
- b. Freddy also thanked Chief Harrison, Commander Marches and Deputy Chief Paul Noel for their update at last meeting.

## **6. Questions**

Reid raised question about his limbo status (see above)

**7. Motion to adjourn**

Wally moved to adjourn. John seconded. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.