

Lakeview Crime Prevention District
Meeting
1/28/16
St. Dominic Rectory Meeting Room
Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order at 6:03

2. Roll Call:

Nancy Lytle
Freddy Yoder
Martin Landrieu
Jeb Bruneau
Val Cupit
Leland Champagne
Reid Raymond

Also present were CPA Larry Jacobi, Attorney Richard Bordelon and Sgt. Rene Benjamin

3. Approval minutes. Martin moved to approve, Leland seconded. All were in favor.

4. Guest Speaker Superintendent of Police Michael Harrison

Chief Harrison started off by stating that Commander Marchese, who was present, was doing a great job. Deputy Chief Paul Noel was also present. Chief Harrison wanted to attend and let everyone know what was going on. One of his biggest goals when he took over was to allow civilians to do some of the jobs police officers were doing to allow them to be back on the streets. Next best thing to adding more police officers is to free them up to do what they are supposed to do.

He discussed false alarm ordinance that is designed to reduce the amount of time police officers use to respond to false alarms. He is also a proponent of online reporting system for reporting of minor offenses. This involves non-violent property offenses.

Looking back in time, hiring is going well. In 2013, NOPD lost more than hired; 2014 broke even; 2015 hired more than lost; graduated four classes in 2015. The goal is to hire 150 officers in 2016 and get to 1600 officers in 2010. Upcoming mileage, April 9, will give NOPD funding that is needed for this growth.

Police department has hired a consultant to conduct a staffing analysis to advise how to use resources now. Department realizes that response time is too long because there are more calls than the number of police officers to deal with them. Success rate targeted is responding to an emergency within seven minutes 90% if the time.

Chief Harrison stated that the Department is almost at crisis mode but it is not as bad as it seems. He has been able to shift administrative officers (quality of life, community officers, etc.) to go on the street. Goal is to be more visible and provide deterrence. One of the biggest

concerns with the cuts is the elimination of the quality of life officer. Other officers are going to have to cover those duties.

Third District had largest crime reduction in 2015. 16% in one year is remarkable.

Questions from the audience:

What is staffing target: 1266 target hire for staffing for 2016 based on this year's budget that gives me ability to hire 150 with average attrition of 80. 73 are staffed for 3rd district. Numbers have increased because growing faster than before and people leaving at slower rate perhaps because of 15% pay raise and better infrastructure.

How many police officers work 3rd district per shift? Commander Marchese discussed the watches and the specific number of officers each shift. There are now five platoons instead of three which is a new design to cover disparities during shift change.

Question about VoCal program where volunteers are used to assist. Chief Harrison stated that it is still there but probably need to circle back to make sure as robust as could be.

How does department handle hot spots? One way police determine hot spots is through software, Omega solutions. They can look at where crime is being prevented and predict where to deploy officers.

Question re: Car break-ins. By and large due to cars being unlocked.

Comment by Freddy Yoder: footprint was enlarged of 3rd district which put greater burden on district. He asked if that came up again, try to avoid making it even bigger and Chief Harrison agreed.

Question from New Representative Stephanie Hilferty about why N.O. has to deal with interstate. Per Chief Harrison, There are two reasons. First, due to City Charter, New Orleans has primary responsibility for traffic on interstate. Second, while we have state police help, 46 are going to French Quarter. He recommends going to the City and Council and Legislature if someone wants to lobby changing that. He is a big proponent of eliminating the need for police to respond to minor accidents, which has been done in other cities and would free up officers to combat crime and not respond to accidents. This is being discussed but is not yet in place. However, if implemented minor accidents would be reported directly to the insurance company with no police report.

How can other law enforcement officers be used to assist? Problem is that they are limited by their jurisdictional boundaries (Harbor Police, etc.) Sheriff's deputies are limited to jail and courts.

How have crime cameras on people's homes helped? It's a very significant tool in investigations.

Old Business

1. Reid and Jeb commented that Larry and Richard's reports should be higher on the agenda. Martin said that is the chairman's call. Consensus was that this made sense.
2. Discussion about several items Nancy was handling such as newsletter, stickers, yard signs; those issues were tabled per Martin motion seconded by John. All were in favor.
3. Regarding need for professional to handle posting the status and updates on LCPD, IT, Facebook, Website, etc. Reid moved to organize a committee for social media to discuss these items and Jeb seconded that. Discussion included comments from Martin that it was not just Facebook, communication and outreach, but newsletter, website and Facebook. He suggested that all be include. Reid amended his motion to include these items and Val seconded. All were in favor.
4. Modification of budget to include an adjustment to the budget for preparation of the minutes at \$200 per month or \$2,000 a year. Leland moved for it and John seconded. There was some discussion over whether minutes needed to be that detailed and whether it was worth the cost. Richard said it is not required. Vote taken and all in favor.

Sgt. Benjamin's report

See attached.

In addition, there was discussion about cars. He had two new in January that will be outfitted at the end of February. Need to discuss additional cars going forward. Martin asked about overtime spending for Mardi Gras and how Lakeview might be negatively affected. Sgt. Benjamin stated it was typical Mardi Gras staffing but better this year because of more officers. They would have more officers to City Park area due to Endymion.

Larry Jacobi

See report attached

LCPD in very good shape. City of New Orleans collections are doing well.

Richard Bordelon

Board members disclosures to Secretary of State are due in May. Jeb asked Richard to send the board members information in regard to compliance, but Richard said each commissioner must send the information in.

New Business

1. Status of self-training by each board member re: sexual harassment: Board started this and will finish by next month (per Freddy).
2. Brian Anderson (formation and discussion of the new Camera Research Committee-RFQ)

Group made up of Brian, Wally, Val, Reid and Ralph. There have been three public meetings since November and goal is to put together rough draft that lays out request for production for camera program. It has been given to Richard who will make final recommendations. Plan is to make recommendations to board in February.

Comments:

Brian thought the meetings were disorderly with many members on their cell phones. We are constantly out of procedure. He would like to see more out of the board. Brian suggested that secretary should be steward of the minutes so we know what has happened in past meetings. Leland mentioned it may be time for change in leadership. Conversation turned to how people get reappointed to positions which is that they stay on until elected official chooses a successor.

Questions were also raised when officers are reelected. It appears it was last done five to six years ago. Used to be difficulty just getting a quorum. Not so much anymore. May have something to do with initiative to require members to only miss two meetings.

Jeb moved to adjourn and Leland seconded, all were in favor.