

Lakeview Crime Prevention District

Meeting

July 28, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: St Dominic Rectory Meeting Room

Martin Landrieu called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Roll was called, and in attendance were: Freddy Yoder, Nancy Lytle, Martin Landrieu, Brian Anderson, Reid Raymond, Ann Leblanc, John Grillot, Joe Giarrusso, Joe Landry, and Val Cupit. Also in attendance were board attorney Richard Bordelon, Sudie Sutter Joint who was present on behalf of board accountant Larry Jacobi and LCPD Commander Sgt. Rene Benjamin. A quorum was established with 10 members present. State Representative Stephanie Hilferty was also present as were approximately 16 members of the public.

**Approval of minutes:** Martin called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting was made by Joe Giarrusso and seconded by John Grillot. The motion passed with all in favor. Martin then announced that the agenda was comprised of two parts, with the first part being the public interest agenda and the second being the administrative agenda. He then thanked the members of the public for attending and began the public interest portion of the agenda.

**Crime Prevention Report & Statistics:** The current Crime Prevention Report and accompanying PowerPoint presentation (both of which are attached) were presented and reviewed by Commander Rene Benjamin. Sgt. Benjamin reported that on Tuesday July 12 at 10:53PM two armed subjects entered Lakeview Harbor Restaurant and attempted to rob the restaurant and customers. When one employee of the restaurant fled, one of the subjects fired a shot whereupon upon both subjects fled. No one was injured. Benjamin reported that both subjects have been apprehended by NOPD.

As of the morning of the meeting, there were 1312 Uniform Crimes reported in New Orleans this month, 158 of those crimes were reported in the 3rd district and 24 were reported within the Lakeview Crime Prevention District. Year-to-date there have been 75 auto burglaries reported in Lakeview, 70 of the vehicles were unlocked (93%). Three guns were taken in three separate incidents, all three vehicles in which the guns were taken were unlocked. The average response time for LCPD from the time that the calls were received until the LCPD arrived at the scene was 4 minutes and 7 seconds. Sgt. Benjamin concluded his presentation by advising the public that they could help reduce crime by reporting suspicious activity in their neighborhoods, removing weapons and valuables from vehicles daily, keep vehicles, homes and sheds secured at all times, remove car keys from vehicles and dial 911 if you see anything suspicious.

**NONPAC:** Reid Raymond gave a presentation regarding the New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPAC). He was joined in by Third District Commander Gary Marchese who aided with

the presentation. They reported that the NOPD was making headway and that they were ahead of the curve on available NOPD officers in the Third District. Reid reported that the police academy and the Third District offices were being renovated. Reid also reported that auto burglaries are the highest incidents of property crimes in the Third District. Marchese reported that the Third district leads the city in clearance rate of auto burglaries. They explained that in part because of unlocked cars, the word is out among perpetrators that Lakeview as easy pickings. They discussed details regarding the Lakeview Harbor attempted armed robbery, as well as the recent requirements for two man cars to respond to certain calls. Reid ended by announcing that the NONPAC meeting is the third Tuesday of the month at 4650 Paris Ave from 6 to 7pm. The email address for quality of life issues is: [nopd3rddistrict@nola.gov](mailto:nopd3rddistrict@nola.gov)

**Financial Report:** Sudie reviewed the balance sheet as well as the profit and loss statement. (attached). There is about six hundred thousand in the LCPD's account and with accounts payable for approximately two hundred thousand for patrols, leaving approximately four hundred thousand dollars. Sudie reported that since the last meeting, the board had received two invoices for patrols from the city. These invoices which normally run about twenty-five thousand dollars each were between forty-three and forty-four thousand dollars. Board accountant Larry Jacobi had noticed that the hourly rate had increased from about twenty-three dollars an hour to about thirty-one dollars an hour. Upon inquiring as to why, the city responded that the increase was because they had changed their payroll system. Not being satisfied with that explanation a meeting was set up with the city on the Tuesday following this board meeting to discuss the change. Larry and Martin had agreed to hold off paying the two bills until the issue was resolved. Martin explained how the costs have run in the past but that it had now shot up. He pointed out that this increase would cause the board huge problems and that the issue must be resolved and that it might require a special meeting of the board to resolve. He asked board attorney Richard Bordelon attend the meeting as well.

**Crime Camera Committee Report:** Brian reviewed the entire process that was taken for the initial RFP but reported that it came in way over the anticipated budget of twenty-five to thirty-five thousand dollars. He suggested that the board reject all the bids for the initial RFP due to the unavailability of funds. Ann made a motion that the board reject the bids received in response to the last RFP because they are outside the scope of the budget. The motion was seconded by John Grillot. A vote was held and the motion passed with all in favor. Brian presented the results of the crime camera survey that the board had tasked him to conduct at the last board meeting. (survey results attached).

Brian then presented to the board an eight point scaled down version of the original RFP that he believed would cost approximately fifty-seven thousand and five hundred dollars. Martin asked that while he would like to know the board's sentiments for the camera proposal, he did not want the board to vote on the actual funds until the issue with the city invoices was resolved. Val expressed support for the proposal and other future tools, Ann agreed and liked how the proposal integrated existing private cameras as well. Martin asked if anyone did not support and no one on the board expressed a lack of support for Brian's proposal. John suggested that because of the issue with the city's invoices, that they not increase the current thirty-five-thousand-dollar camera budget to sixty thousand dollars at this time. Martin pointed out that in the future the board may have to consider increasing the fee collected in order to accommodate the camera program. Freddy expressed support for the camera proposal and

asked the board to please consider going forward with the camera proposal to the limits of the thirty-five thousand dollars that was already budgeted for cameras. Martin announced that there would be a motion and a vote for Brian's camera proposal at the next meeting of the LCPD Board. Martin thanked the members of the public who were in attendance. He then announced the end of the public interest portion of the meeting and began with the administrative portion.

**Bylaws Committee:** Reid passed out some changes to the bylaws that were recommended by the committee. Martin explained that there were some additional changes that were not included but that were needed. Reid agreed to resubmit the changes at the next meeting where those additional changes would be included and voted on.

**Website Proposal:** Reid passed out some suggested changes to the LCPD website including a recommendation that the names for the website domain be retained registered and paid for. His handout (attached) included an estimated annual cost needed annually to maintain the website. He pointed out that the estimated cost was one thousand twenty-seven fifty for the year and that the amount that had been budgeted was twenty-four hundred. Reid made a motion to adopt into the budget to make the expenses of up to a thousand dollars for a twelve-month period of time on web maintenance. The motion was seconded by Joe Giarrusso. A vote was held and the motion passed with all present in favor.

**LCPD Decals:** Nancy reviewed the proposals that had come in and made a recommendation. Martin pointed out that Nancy had been working for months on the decals and that she was making a recommendation that the board go with the proposal by Pro-Forma for the decals and a company called Mele for the mailing of them to the residents for a total cost of six thousand three hundred and two dollars. Brian requested more information regarding the breakdown costs of the decals such as cost of printing. He requested that it be put on the record that originally the board had discussed two inch by two inch square non-descript reflective 'LVs' and that they were now being changed to ovals that say LCPD and that they would now be bigger than two inch by two inch. The decals in the current proposals were described to Brian as being a reflective version of the previous oval LCPD decals. Martin clarified that the proposal was to print eleven thousand decals and to send out by mail five thousand four hundred which is the number of addresses in Lakeview only from the assessor's list. The mailing would include two decals per address and the cost of the first mailing would be two thousand seven hundred forty-two dollars. The actual printing was three thousand one hundred and ninety and there were a few odd expenses that go with it that bring the total to six thousand three hundred and two dollars. Martin asked that the board either go forward with the decals or not. Brian explained that many wanted decals that the police would know what they meant, but not members of the public. He said that a lot of the people that he spoke with don't want something that's flashy and that lets people know where they are, but that they want something non-descript. He added that he believed that having a red oval decal with LCPD on it is not what they had originally discussed. Freddy and other board members disagreed. Freddy explained that they had established a brand in Lakeview for LCPD and that brand is what is on all stationary that we have, it is on every police car and that it is what the public has known us to be and that it should not be considered in changing the brand, the configuration or of what is on it. Brian responded by repeating his earlier statement that this is not marketing for LCPD. Nancy pointed out

that there was a benefit with the consistency with maintaining similarity with previous decals. Ann questioned the benefit of the decals because she believed that not many would actually end up being used. Brian reiterated that we are not doing this to promote LCPD and that it was to show that it is safer for our neighbors to have something on our cars so that officers can identify it and he guaranteed the board that if you put them out in that context that people will show up to pick them up. He said that it is not a show your pride about LCPD, it's something nondescript that officers can utilize. He stated that it is a very simple process and he believed that it shouldn't be put off month after month. Ann made a motion that the board go forward with the decals and that they be included with the next newsletter. John Grillot seconded the motion. Nancy explained that there were difficulties with attaching the decals to the newsletter that also complicated the post office's ability to handle the newsletters with the decals included and that to overcome these difficulties would be expensive. Brian suggested a compromise that the board have the decals printed and that the time between having the decals printed and the next newsletter be used to allow Lakeview residents to come to meetings to pick up their decals and that whatever had not be picked up by the next newsletter could be included in the newsletter. Brian volunteered to personally keep track of those who had been picked from those who hadn't. He felt that to wait three to four months is a mistake and to spend a lot of money just to mail them is a mistake also. John Grillot agreed with moving forward with the decals and expressed support for the LCPD version of the decals. Martin expressed that though he respected Brian's opinion, that he too was strongly in favor of having LCPD on the logos. Val pointed out that in the past, the LCPD logo decals were beneficial in identifying Lakeview cars that had been abandoned in other parts of the city. Ann amended her motion to authorize the purchase of the eleven thousand LCPD decals and upon receipt, the board will then decide how to distribute them. John Grillot seconded the motion. All but one were in favor, Brian was opposed. The motion passed. Lakeview resident Roy Arrigo suggested that in distributing the decals that a uniform location be suggested for placement on the cars. It was agreed to include information when they are distributed.

Martin called for a motion to adjourn, John Grillot made the motion, it was seconded by Joe Giarrusso and the meeting was adjourned.