

Lakeview Crime Prevention District

Meeting

September 22, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: St Dominic Rectory Meeting Room

Martin Landrieu called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Roll was called, in attendance were: Joe Landry, Jeb Bruneau, Nancy Lytle, Freddy Yoder, Martin Landrieu, Brian Anderson, Ann Leblanc, Reid Raymond, Val Cupit and Joe Giarrusso. Also in attendance was board accountant Larry Jacobi, board attorney Richard Bordelon, and Lakeview Crime Prevention District Commander Sgt. Rene Benjamin. A quorum was established with 10 board members present. Also present were approximately 8 members of the community.

Approval of minutes: Martin called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting. The motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting was made by Nancy Lytle and seconded by Reid Raymond. The motion passed with all in favor. Martin requested that Reid post the approved minutes on the LCPD website.

Crime Prevention Report & Statistics: In introducing the crime statistics, Martin asked that any discussion of patrols be discussed during the financial report. The current Crime Prevention Report and accompanying PowerPoint presentation (both of which are attached) were presented and reviewed by Commander Rene Benjamin. He reported that 982 UCR crimes had occurred in New Orleans, of those, 82 occurred in the third district and of those 82 UCR crimes, 10, or 1 percent of the crime reported in Orleans Parish, occurred in Lakeview. All 10 of those UCR crimes were property crimes and none were persons' crimes. Of those ten crimes nine were auto burglaries, six of which were unsecured vehicles. He reported that year to date, there had been 97 auto burglaries within the LCPD and that 87, or 90% were unlocked cars. 14 cars were stolen year to date in Lakeview, 12 were unlocked and 9 had keys inside of them. Of the 14 vehicles stolen in Lakeview 9 were recovered and returned to the owners. In response to a question from Bryan Lagarde of Project NOLA a brief discussion about dispatch times was held. In acknowledgment of law enforcement week, Nancy took a moment to thank Sgt. Benjamin for his hard work at commanding the district and the efforts of the other officers in the LCPD.

Financial Report

Martin explained that information that would be critical to the end of the 2016 budget and the 2017 budget would not be available from the city for another week. He stated that for this reason, there would be a special meeting to be held the Thursday of next week to discuss the 2017 budget and to discuss possibly raising the annual fee that is charged. Martin explained that because the city went to a new payroll system the payroll cost of patrols was going up significantly because of four past pay increases to the police that had previously not been factored in to LCPD's costs. Premium payments for

nighttime shifts (2%) and graveyard shifts (5%) had also not been factored in previously. How the city charges back to LCPD for overtime of patrolmen working LCPD was also adjusted. For those reasons what had previously been monthly patrol costs of approximately 24-25 thousand dollars per month increased to about 38 to 40 thousand dollars per month, a drastic increase in our monthly patrol costs. The board has to address that issue. Martin reported that he, Freddy and Larry met with city officials in charge of the fiscal office of the NOPD on Tuesday. They were very receptive. The causes of the increases were identified and accepted, however they wanted to discuss how overtime was allocated to LCPD. Martin explained the three possible outcomes of the overtime allocation issue. In the past years' patrolmen were charged back to the city at full overtime rates for every hour that they worked for LCPD even though he might be working straight time for LCPD. If an officer works for example, 24 hours in a cycle for LCPD, historically 24 hours of overtime were charged to LCPD even if that officer had worked in that cycle of 85 hours, only 15 were actually overtime. Having worked 24 hours for LCPD, they would have still charged LCPD for 24 hours of overtime because the straight time for Lakeview caused him to go into overtime. The most likely outcome would be that Lakeview would be charged at an overtime rate only for the amount of overtime that the officer had worked. Another position put forward by LCPD was that when an officer is working, no matter when he is working, that LCPD would be charged the rate that the officer is actually working at that time. That is the scenario that we think is fairest to us. The most complicated option is if in an 85.5 cycle, and if there is any overtime worked it is because of the time worked for LCPD and for that reason, regardless of if he worked the first hour or the last hour for LCPD, this has caused him to be in overtime and therefore you should pay him at overtime rate. LCPD approached the city for some relief on that approach. Martin reported that because of extra money in the bank, the amount of patrols were increased in 2016 over the number of patrols in the previous years. He projected the number of hours of patrols for the year would be about 29 to 30 thousand hours and that this far exceeds what they had in prior years. With that background, the board needed to discuss the 2017 budget.

Larry stated that at the meeting with the city, the city had 11 individuals there representing the city and there were 3 members of LCPD. He emphasized that the patrolmen were being paid properly for their overtime. The discussion is not about the pay that the patrolmen are receiving on their individual paychecks. The discussion is about the method that city is using to calculate what they charge crime districts of time worked by patrolmen. The change happened because the city changed from one payroll system to another and when that occurred, they had a review of the entire bill back process and they discovered several discrepancies and they rectified those discrepancies and hence the board's bills have increased by about 25%. The patrolman payroll is done electronically, however the bill back system to the crime districts is a manual process. He reviewed the specific discrepancies such as pay increased that had not been factored in that were rectified. Larry anticipated that the issue of which of the 3 options that Martin covered would be close to finalized at next Tuesday's meeting with the city. Joe Giarrusso inquired if there was any indication that the city would seek to be paid for past costs. Larry replied that the city has never been raised by the city. Martin added that no has requested going back beyond May 29th and that he felt that the issue should not be raised. Larry passed out the usual financial reports to the board and reviewed the highlights of those reports.

Larry reviewed the income reports that he produced for the board. (See P&L Attached). They compared income for the last portion of 2015 against the projected income for 2016 as well as one for the entire year. He also reviewed the actual versus projected budget as well as a balance sheet. Larry projected that the board would have about \$250,000 available to pay expenses for the remainder of the year. He reviewed the projected budget for the remainder of the year. Brian pointed out that the decrease in patrols for the remaining portion of the year would equal the amount of patrols as was done in 2014. Val pointed out that in 2014 there were similar but slightly lower property crimes than there were in the current year. Sgt. Benjamin estimated that the response time may increase slightly with the patrol reductions but he did not believe that it would adversely affect the car burglaries. Martin asked the board if they were comfortable with the proposal by Larry that included the reduced patrols and that also funded a pilot program. Ann made a motion that the board approve a \$20,000 budget for the crime cameras. Brian seconded Ann's motion. Discussion ensued and Ann withdrew her motion. Richard reminded the board that if they allocated \$30,000 for cameras, that the board would have to follow public bid procedures. Ann made a motion to reduce patrols as discussed by the accountant for the remainder of the year from 1030 hours per cycle to 914 hours per cycle subject to the discretion of the commander and subject to monthly review by the board. Val seconded the motion. Larry asked that the motion include a 'not to exceed' figure in the motion. Brian proposed a substitute motion to approve Sgt. Benjamin at his discretion to approve up to 5,940 patrol hours to be averaged out over 6.5 cycles. Freddy seconded it, there was no discussion and the motion passed with all in favor. Brian then made a motion that the board approve \$20,000 for a technology budget to be spent before the end of the year. Ann clarified that the money in this motion should be used for crime cameras. Martin agreed. Brian amended his motion to incorporate a previous proposal that was already presented to the board with the approval of the president. Brian restated the motion Joe Giarrusso seconded it, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Martin announced that at next week's meeting that the agenda include two things: the 2017 budget, and if it is appropriate or not to increase the fee. He explained that those would be the only two things on the agenda and asked the board members to put some thought into it.

Administrative Agenda: Martin concluded the public interest portion of the agenda meeting and he commenced with the administrative portion of the agenda.

Car Decals: Nancy explained that we now have the decals, Martin announced that they had been distributed at Lakeview Civic. Martin thanked Nancy for her efforts on the decals.

Public Comments: A member of the public asked about how the decals would be distributed. It was explained that they would be available at LCIA and LCPD meetings. Someone asked where on the car they should be placed on the car. It was explained that they should be placed on the back driver's side window. A member of the public Bryan Lagarde of Project NOLA proposed that the board consider some new cameras that he is currently working with.

Martin called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Joe Giarrusso and the meeting was adjourned unanimously at 7:40pm.