

Lakeview Crime Prevention District Meeting

February 22, 2018

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: St Dominic Rectory Meeting Room

Brian Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM. Roll was called, and in attendance were: Ann Leblanc, Nancy Lytle, Freddy Yoder, Brian Anderson, Val Cupit, and Reid Raymond. A quorum was established. Also, in attendance were LCPD Commander Rene Benjamin, LCPD accountant Larry Jacobi and 3 members of the community. Rory Bellina arrived short after the minutes were approved. (Martin Landrieu, Jeb Bruneau, Joe Landry and board lawyer Mr. Bordelon arrived during the crime report).

**Approval of minutes:** Brian Anderson called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018, board meeting. Copies of those minutes had been circulated to the board members earlier. The motion to approve those minutes was made by Val Cupit and seconded by Nancy Lytle. The motion passed with all in favor.

**Public Interest Agenda:**

**Crime Prevention Report & Statistics:** Sgt. Benjamin reviewed the Crime Prevention Report comparing crime stats for in Lakeview for the month of February (attached). He stated that as of this morning, twelve vehicle crimes were reported in Lakeview. They included six auto burglaries and two vehicle thefts. Both vehicle thefts occurred in the 6400 block of Catina. There were also two shoplifting cases at Right Aid and two other thefts reported in Lakeview. One of the two stolen vehicles was recovered and arrest were made in that case. Sgt. Benjamin reported that there were two more auto burglaries this month than there were last month. All other categories were the same as last month. Year-to-date there were a total of twenty-three UCR crime reported in Lakeview. They included ten auto burglaries. 60.9% of the crimes involved vehicles that were either stolen or burglarized. Property crimes are down 52% year-to-date and persons crimes were down 100%, with only one being reported last year and none reported this year at this time. There have been ten auto burglaries in Lakeview, all involved unlocked vehicles. There were also three auto thefts and one attempted auto theft. Three of those four were cleared by arrest and all three vehicles have been recovered and returned to their owners. Sgt. Benjamin also reviewed the year-to-date crime stats and response times. LCPD responded to fifty-five high priority calls last month with an overall response time of five minutes and twenty-seven

seconds. NOPD's response time for the same period was thirteen minutes and five seconds. He reviewed maps that show the location of the patrols at 30-minute intervals.

Sgt. Benjamin reported that the thermal scopes have been very helpful in seeing door handle pullers from great distances. He reported that the scopes would be a game changer in countering these crimes. He stated that they have two scopes and would like to get two more.

Sgt. Benjamin reported that they were beginning to address the problem of four wheelers and dirt bikes riding on city streets that occurs occasionally in Lakeview. A plan was being put in place to address this issue. Ann Leblanc asked if there was enough money in the technology budget to purchase two more of the thermal scopes. Brian Anderson stated that there was. Ann Leblanc, then made a motion to amend the agenda to add a motion to purchase two additional scopes. The motion was seconded by Val Cupit. There were none opposed and the motion passes. Brian Anderson noted for the minutes that during Sgt. Benjamin's Crime Report that Mr. Bruneau, Mr. Landry and board lawyer Mr. Bordelon arrived at the meeting. Martin Landrieu who also arrived during the crime report asked that the record be certain to reflect that Mr. Landrieu arrived in before Mr. Bruneau!

With the motion by Ann Leblanc passing, Brian moved to the thermal scopes on the agenda. A motion was then made by Ann Leblanc to authorize the purchase of two more scopes. The motion was seconded by Nancy Lytle. Brian Anderson called for any discussion. Jeb Bruneau pointed out that it was amazing how quickly the LCPD has changed and adapted to using new technology. Freddy Yoder asked Sgt. Benjamin for his opinion on the value of license plate readers. Sgt. Benjamin reported that they are quite valuable, however the New Orleans plate readers do not yet alert the officers in the area when it detects a stolen car, but that it was being worked on and that they should have that ability shortly. The discussion was complete, and Brian Anderson called for a vote on the motion to purchase two new thermal cameras. None were opposed, and the motion passed with all in favor. Sgt. Benjamin thanked the board and Brian Anderson in turn thanked Sgt. Benjamin.

**Financial Report:** Larry Jacobi reviewed the monthly financial statements (attached). The first sheet was the balance sheet that showed the cash on hand as one hundred and eighty-seven thousand dollars. He pointed out that we do also have accounts payable in the amount of eighty-three three-fifty. Mr. Jacobi stated that the city was a little bit behind in sending LCPD the bills for patrols. He also pointed out that the collections for the parcel fees were

slightly behind the same time last year as well and attributed both to the early Mardi Gras in 2018. He was expecting another check from the city before the end of the month. Brian pointed out that despite the delays that the board could still pay their bills and Larry Jacobi agreed. Mr. Jacobi reported that everything else was in line, with patrols being up slightly up. Val Cupit asked about the errors and omissions insurance. Larry reported that it had already been renewed with Eustis.

**Public Comments:** Brian Anderson pointed out that Mr. Rafferty from Representative Hilferty's office was in attendance as was Mr. Kirk Williamson. Irene, the wife of Reid Raymond was in attendance as well. Mr. Williamson thanked the board for what they do for the community.

**Administrative Agenda:**

Brian Anderson reminded the board members that their annual financial disclosure form is due in to the ethics board by May 15th. Richard Bordelon clarified that it is form Tier 2.1 on the Ethics Board website and he stated that he would send the information to all of the board members. Each individual board member is responsible for sending their own form in. There is a bill in the legislature that if passed, would exempt boards such as the LCPD from having to file the Tier 2.1 forms, however it is still required for all board members to send one in for the year 2017. Brian also reminded the board members that they are each required to complete the Ethics On-line course as well. He encouraged each board member to do it as soon as possible so that he could move it off of the agenda, adding that it was not a long test. Reid Raymond and Brian Anderson clarified that the long minutes would continue to be posted on the LCPD website and that the short minutes would be the minutes that are posted in the newspaper.

Sgt. Benjamin reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> District now has a quality of life officer and that anyone with any quality of life issues should contact Sgt. Benjamin. Jeb Bruneau asked if the quality-of-life officer could come to the meeting and introduce himself. Brian Anderson asked the board that if there is anyone that they would like to have attend the meeting, to let him know. Reid Raymond informed the board that the Third District manpower is up to 85 officers from 66 two years ago. Brian updated everyone that the Lock It or Lose It program was continuing to go forward and that they were preparing to go to the Lakeview schools to motivate the children to get their parents to lock their car doors.

There was no additional new business and Brian Anderson called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Val Cupit, it was seconded by Freddy Yoder. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45PM.