

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M.**

**March 18, 2019
Police Department Community Room**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson White called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., on March 18, 2019 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Thurston, Eubanks, LaPoint and Chairperson White

Staff: Lieutenant, Tarra Mendes
Coordinator, Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

3. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson White welcomed everyone to the meeting. She discussed the manner in which the meeting would be conducted. She announced various documents were available in the Community Room this evening.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (February 20, 2019)

On motion by Commissioner Eubanks, seconded by Commissioner Thurston, the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of February 20, 2019 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Thurston, Eubanks, LaPoint and Chairperson White

5. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

6. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

"Human Trafficking" by Justin Gomez, Contra Costa Human Trafficking Coalition

Justin Gomez, Contra Costa Human Trafficking Coalition, gave a brief professional history and PowerPoint presentation on Human Trafficking, which included the following:

1 – Human Trafficking is much more than it is portrayed to be

- Complicated issue that happened everywhere
- Exploitation of a person for the purpose of commercial sex or labor
- Labor Trafficking – (examples: agriculture, hospitality, domestic work)
- Sex trafficking consists of adult sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children/youth (CSEC/CSEY)
- Actions/Means/Purpose
 - Action – induce, recruits, harbors, transports, provides or obtains
 - Means - force, fraud or coercion
 - Purpose – commercial sex trafficking or labor/services trafficking
- Minors – do not need to prove force/fraud or coercion

2 - Human Trafficking is a local issue

- 1,305 cases in California in 2017
- 342 victims served in Contra Costa County in 2018

3 – Human Trafficking can happen in plain sight

- Ag/farms
- Domestic work
- Food/Restaurant Industry
- Day laborers
- Nail salon
- Massage

4 – Human Trafficking impacts our most vulnerable populations

- Immigrant communities
- Communities of color
- Homeless and runaway youth
- Foster youth
- LGBTQ youth (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning)
- Approximately 2/3 adult and 1/3 minor cases

5 – You can help combat human trafficking

- “Learn the Signs”, Posters and Business Cards (available in the Community Room this evening)
- Submit tips to: hotline - 1-888-373-7888 or text - be free or 233733 or local law enforcement
- Get Involved
- Attend Trainings – March 30, 2019 in Brentwood and April 27, 2019 in Oakley
- Additional information available at contracostacoalition.org

He reported that there was a recent grant acquisition through their office and working with District Attorney Becton to form a Human Trafficking Task Force.

In response to Commissioner Thurston, Mr. Gomez explained that SB 11-93 required eleven categories of businesses to post human trafficking reporting information and it was his opinion that the law lacked the clarity in regards to who is in charge of enforcement. He reported the coalition had passed out posters to as many businesses as possible; however, there was no infrastructure in place to check for compliance. He noted there was legislation going through that was seeking to expand the categories of businesses and provisions on reporting. He clarified that the only food type establishments that were required to post the information were type 47 liquor licenses, which was essentially bars. He discussed the importance of having the information available for the potential victims of human trafficking.

In response to Commissioner Eubanks, Mr. Gomez stated it was difficult to determine if street corner or door-to-door fruit and magazine sales were related to human trafficking; however, he stated tips could be submitted to the national human trafficking hotline to determine if there was an issue that needed to be addressed.

In response to a speaker, Mr. Gomez stated that posters could be given directly to an individual; however, they need to take under consideration that if an individual was being exploited, having the information on law enforcement or help may put them into a potentially dangerous situation. He commented that they believe putting the information on public display at as many locations as possible may be safer for exploited individuals.

In response to a speaker, Mr. Gomez stated if individuals had the ability and means to purchase fair trade, it would help combat human trafficking. He noted educating yourself as a consumer was one of the best things you can do because labor trafficking/exploitation touched many items sold.

In response to a speaker, Lieutenant Mendez reported that there was no longer an Ordinance against selling fruit/ice cream on the street in Antioch, due to recent legislation.

Mr. Gomez reiterated that resources were available in the community room this evening.

Chairperson White thanked Mr. Gomez for the presentation.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

Business Watch Implementation

- L St and Sycamore

Commissioner Thurston reported that he visited the Quick Stop and three other businesses in the area who had displayed their Business Watch signage. He noted he was able to obtain information regarding the property owner and he was in the process of contacting him regarding the installation of street signs for the area. He stated the owners were concerned because as soon as the police left after checking the area, the criminal element returned. He noted he had informed them that a security guard on the premises would serve as a deterrent. He reported some of the business owners were under intimidation; however, they were making progress.

- Umpqua Bank

Commissioner LaPoint requested an update regarding signage for the area.

Coordinator Ho reported that he had spoken with the bank manager and their sign application was forwarded to the Public Works Department. He noted as soon as the signage arrived, it would be installed. He further noted it was the same status for the Marina.

- Antioch Marina

Commissioner Eubanks reported that the Antioch Marina Business Watch was very well organized and there had been two monthly meetings. He announced that Twin Rivers, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Smith's Landing, live aboard boat owners, Pacific Pride and Delta Kayak Adventures participated. He noted that Twin Rivers and Harbor Master had surveillance cameras that covered the entire marina. He reported that there was an incident at Smith's Landing when someone who frequents the area physically threatened an employee and it was a good teaching moment regarding the importance of reporting all incidents to the Antioch Police Department. He thanked Coordinator Ho for his assistance in ordering street signage.

- Somersville Town Center

Commissioner Eubanks stated the mall was concerned with the amount of crime occurring and he was working with the property manager and security. He noted those committing crime in the area were aware of police response times and were able to commit crimes and leave prior to the Police arriving. He reported the mall was losing tenants so meetings were planned with Officer Summers to address the issues.

Coordinator Ho reported that the mall needed to schedule a time and date because the meeting had been scheduled and postponed twice. He noted that Officer Summers is aware of their concerns.

Commissioner Eubanks stated the mall was looking for more police presence or people in uniform to serve as a deterrent.

Coordinator Ho cautioned that Commissioners being present at the mall in uniform was a concern because if something happened they could not do anything about it and to the public it would look like people in uniform were not reacting to the situation. Additionally, he noted if they did react they put themselves in danger.

Lieutenant Mendes commented that the Antioch Police Department were not the ones who had delayed the meeting with mall management.

A speaker questioned if the Commission had addressed the problems at the old CVS/Food Maxx property.

Lieutenant Mendes stated that the property had been cleaned up within the last week. She noted that it was private property so Antioch Police Department had to work with the City through Code Enforcement to get compliance or conduct abatement and it was a lengthy process.

- Blue Rock Merchants

Chairperson White stated she had visited a business in the area and she was providing them with Business Watch signage. She noted they have not reported any criminal activity in the area.

- West Tregallas Road & Lone Tree Way

Chairperson White reported she had not returned to the location as she was uncomfortable going into the business alone during the evening hours. She noted that the store was franchised out and the owner was typically not on the premises.

Commissioner Thurston offered to go with Chairperson White. He stated that they could also include the strip mall in the area.

Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee – Report by Chairperson White

Chairperson White reported she had hosted a Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee meeting with the assistance of Commissioner LaPoint. She noted she had sent out 30 invitations and several people attended. She further noted that good information had been provided. She apologized if she missed sending an invitation to anyone and noted she would create a contact sheet for anyone wishing to be notified of future meetings. She further noted the next meeting would be in May. She stated she would send details of the meeting date and time via email and she will also send a reminder as the date approaches.

In response to a speaker, Chairperson White stated if anyone is unable to attend the meeting, they could email her and she would send the PowerPoint presentation to share with their neighbors.

The speaker responded that she would also share information with the committee.

Business Watch Webpage – Item closed, webpage is up

Coordinator Ho announced that Business Watch webpage was up on the City's website and this item would be closed out as Old Business.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Additional New Business – Input from the Commissioners and/or Antioch Police Department

9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Commission

Commissioner LaPoint announced that a handout was available this evening regarding how to secure your property. She reported that she had attended the City Council meeting on February 26, 2019 where they had discussed improvements to the BART station parking lot and circulation plan. Additionally, Council discussed implementing alarm fees.

Lieutenant Mendes commented that the Antioch Police Department responded to a large amount of false alarms and in order to address the issue, there had been a change to the Ordinance requiring a verified response. She noted after two false alarms, the user would begin being charged for Antioch Police Department responses. Additionally, a yearly registration fee will be charged.

Marie Livingston reported that she had had an alarm permit for 20 years and had not received a notice to renew her registration.

Lieutenant Mendes reported that the Ordinance was recently approved by Council and residents would be notified once the third party vendor began processing alarm permit registrations. She noted information was available on the City's website via the Antioch Police Department webpage.

Commissioner LaPoint discussed the importance of having current and updated information for the alarm registrations.

Lieutenant Mendes added that true alarms would not count as a false alarm.

A speaker reported that the Antioch Police Department responded to his home because of a faulty sensor for his side garage door.

A speaker questioned if she would receive notification that she would have to start paying a fee if she had an alarm but had never notified the Antioch Police Department.

Lieutenant Mendes confirmed that the homeowner would be notified; however, she did not know the specifics because it was a new fee and the City would be using a third party vendor.

Commissioner LaPoint reported that another item discussed by Council was that the Lone Tree Golf Course provided summer youth camp and they would assist those in need of golf clubs.

Commissioner Thurston encouraged residents to report all suspicious activity.

Chairperson White reported there had been a lot of car break-ins and thefts from properties. She encouraged residents to remain vigilant as the warm weather arrives with securing their windows and property. Additionally, she reminded residents to not leave items in view in their vehicles, even in their driveways. She reported that people were using outside electrical sockets on resident's homes to charge their cell phones, so she encouraged residents to secure their electrical outlets at their homes.

In response to Commissioner Thurston, Lieutenant Mendes stated that security camera registration was available. She reported that recently her cousin was murdered in Antioch and the neighbors had registered their cameras and the Antioch Police Department was able to retrieve a vast amount of information from them. She urged everyone with surveillance cameras to register them.

In response to a speaker, she noted the property owner or tenant could register their cameras.

A speaker reported that there was a recent incident where there was a knock on the door at 1:00 A.M. and Antioch Police Department had been able to locate the individual.

Lieutenant Mendes noted when there was a number of cameras including intersection cameras, they could provide a direction of travel, type of vehicle involved and license plate numbers.

Commissioner Eubanks reported the VIPS had been requested to make the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) presentation to one of his Neighborhood Watch groups. He noted anyone wishing to host a presentation could schedule it by contacting Coordinator Ho.

Coordinator Ho asked that requests for the presentation be made via email and that they propose a time, and date so he could try to coordinate the presentation. He noted VIPS were formally trained in CPTED presentations.

Lieutenant Mendes announced Tip-a-Cop benefiting Special Olympics would be held from 5:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. on March 19, 2019 at Smith's Landing.

Coordinator Ho added that Lieutenant Mendes would be serving at the Tip-A-Cop event.

Lieutenant Mendes encouraged anyone with suggestions for presentations to submit them to the Commission or Coordinator Ho. She encouraged Neighborhood Watch participants to promote participation in Police Crime Prevention Commission meetings.

A resident requested an updated presentation from the Ring doorbell representative.

Staff

Chairperson White announced the following meeting/presentation/events schedule.

10. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- April 6, 2019 – Neighborhood Clean Up, 9:00 A.M. -11:00 A.M. at Fremont Elementary School, 1413 F Street
- April 15, 2019 – Crime Prevention Commission meeting

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Davidson reported that he had observed a SWAT situation last Thursday at approximately 6:00 P.M. on Longview Road and he questioned if he could approach the SWAT team to find out what was occurring.

Lieutenant Mendes stated the SWAT team should not be approached in an active situation. She noted that she did not believe there was SWAT activity at that time; however, they did have the Vehicle Theft Suppression Team occurring at that time which may have been serving a search warrant or they may have been following up regarding a car that was recovered.

Mr. Davidson stated the police had SWAT jackets on and they were carrying M-16s. He requested Antioch Police Department update residents on the Chichibu website regarding this incident.

Lieutenant Mendes stated that Antioch Police Department utilized next-door and if there was a question regarding police activity it was typically addressed there by the Dispatch Supervisor.

A speaker reported that she had called into the Antioch Police Department non-emergency number to express concern regarding homeless vehicles on "G" Street who were unloading their vehicles on the sidewalk and using bicycles to ride into the downtown area. She stated that they may have been engaging in illegal activity. She also questioned why Concord had more Code Enforcement officers than Antioch.

Coordinator Ho stated that that staffing questions should be directed to the City Council as they determined how the funds were allocated. He reported that the Code Enforcement division was under the Public Works Department.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Eubanks, seconded by Commissioner LaPoint the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously adjourned the meeting. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Thurston, Eubanks, LaPoint and Chairperson White

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 15, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Kitty Eiden

KITTY EIDEN, Minutes Clerk