

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California
March 21, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gadams called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M., on March 21, 2016 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Taylor, Parham, Solorio, Davis and Chairperson Gadams
Absent: Commissioner Williams and Thurston

Staff: Lieutenant, Desmond Bittner
Coordinator, Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (February 17, 2016)

On motion by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Solorio the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of February 17, 2016 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Taylor, Parham, Solorio, Davis and Chairperson Gadams
Absent: Commissioner Williams and Thurston

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Pedraza, Center for Human Development Minor and Youth Alcohol Prevention Program, announced it was her final meeting as the grant for the program was ending. She reported researchers would be making a presentation to the City Council and she would inform the Commission when that would be occurring. She provided an update of their operations in partnership with the Antioch Police Department and encouraged residents to continue to report loud nuisances.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Ms. Pedraza for the reports and for her enforcement efforts in Antioch.

6. COMMISSION / STAFF REPORTS

a. Presentation by: Fire Department – Fire and Safety

Fire Department personnel from Antioch Station #81 provided the following information for the Commission and audience:

- There was a paramedic on every fire engine in Antioch
- Fire station locations in Antioch: #81 – 10th Street, #82 – Bluerock Drive, #83 – Gentrytown Drive, #88 – Wildhorse Road
- Last year each station ran approximately 3000 calls for service
- 70% of calls received were medical aid the remainder were smoke investigation, fire alarms, structure fires, wild land fires, car fires, service calls
- Most common cause of fires: kitchen fires, Christmas trees, car fires, overpowered circuits, grow houses, butane hash oil labs
- Every station in Antioch would be receiving a new fire engine/truck, which would be more reliable and safer
- Ambulance and Fire department merged allowing for cohesiveness and better service to the public
- Fire department responded to medical calls because they were able to get to the location faster (response time was typically 8-9 minutes) and the Fire Department had the manpower for lifting and to perform CPR effectively
- Integrated dispatch center with AMR allowed for service from the closest unit
- Battalion Chiefs had a tablet to keep track of engines/personnel which were able to be synced with additional Battalion Chiefs
- The Fire Department utilized: thermal imagers, computers, GPS systems
- Technology available for homeowners: medical/wifi alerting devices for medical issues or fall risk
- Residents were alerted to 80% of fires at night by a smoke detector
- Old engines were either placed into reserve status, auctioned off, donated to other departments, placed in a slower areas or used for training
- Officer in charge performed a risk assessment and based on how long the fire has been burning, type of fire, resources, viability of the person/animal in building determined if a rescue or search could be conducted safely
- Residents could place stickers on their windows to indicate if pets were in the home
- Dispatch would inform persons reporting a fire to exit the building and shut the door to slow spreading
- If trapped upstairs a shut door would keep fire out for a significant amount of time
- Designate a meeting place outdoors for family members
- The public could assist by pulling to the right and stopping when an emergency vehicle with lights and siren approach
- Emergency vehicles had the ability to trip some traffic signals; however, they were not typically installed near freeway off ramps to avoid traffic from backing up onto the freeway
- Emergency personnel would protect life over property

In response to a member from the audience, Lieutenant Bittner explained that residents of Antioch with alarms systems needed to obtain an alarm permit.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Fire Department personnel from Antioch Station #81 for all their hard work in protecting the citizens of Antioch.

b. Discussion of Report to City Council: Draft report written by sub-committee

Chairperson Gadams announced this item would be tabled to the next meeting and encouraged residents to provide input for the report to Council.

Coordinator Ho announced this item would be placed on the agenda for the April Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting.

7. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

a. Commission

Committee Member Taylor provided an example of a latch shield for side yard garage doors, window alarm and a video doorbell.

Chairperson Gadams explained a video doorbell could be accessed remotely and show residents when packages were delivered.

Committee Member Parham provided the audience of a recording from a video doorbell device.

Committee Member Davis reminded residents that vacation house checks were available by the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) and they could sign up through the City's website.

Committee Member Parham announced there was a bilingual activities coordinator at the Senior Center and she would be hosting a personal safety and Neighborhood Watch seminar.

Committee Member Solorio announced he had assisted Coordinator Ho with a large contingency of residents in the James Donlon Boulevard area that would be forming several Neighborhood Watch groups. He encouraged residents to watch the televised City Council meetings. He reminded residents it was an election year and some Councilmembers terms were expiring.

A speaker encouraged residents to attend and participate in Council meetings.

Committee Member Solorio reported he had visited the shopping center at Somersville Road and Gentrytown Drive. He expressed concern regarding homeless and blight in the area and empathized with residents living near this location.

A speaker reported many residents had expressed their concerns regarding the shopping center to the City Council and nothing had been addressed. She questioned why the City did not charge the property owner for cleaning up the area.

A speaker responded that the property owner had been fined; however, he did not care.

A speaker reported she had discussed the issue with the manager of the 99 cent store and Big Lots. She stated she retrieved the phone number of the District Manager, who conducted a minor clean up of the property. She noted this evening there was a large amount of grocery carts and blight in the area.

Committee Member Taylor encouraged residents to keep making phone calls to request this issue be addressed and suggested indicating that they would not patronize the stores until it was cleaned up.

Committee Member Parham reported the shopping center had been cleaned up in the last 18 months and the owner of the shopping center was the same individual who owned Deer Valley Plaza. Additionally, the owner's daughter was the property manager who was not concerned with the condition of the property. She explained the homeless in the area where chronic and noted it would take citizens support for the City to hire a cleanup crew to address the issue.

Chairperson Gadams encouraged residents to get involved and report illegal or suspicious activity to the Antioch Police Department.

b. Staff

Lieutenant Bittner thanked the Commission and community for participating in the meeting this evening. He announced a second traffic enforcement officer had been assigned to carry out those duties and as staffing increased they would continue to add more personnel to that unit. He noted two officers began working today, four were in the academy, more were lined up for the next academy and additional lateral officers were in the process.

In response to speakers, Lieutenant Bittner explained Code Enforcement was a separate function from the Antioch Police Department. He noted at this time there were 94 sworn officers. He clarified hiring local was ideal; however, they did not limit hiring to Antioch residents.

Coordinator Ho announced applications for National Night Out would be available at the April 18, 2016 Crime Prevention Commission meeting and an email with the application attached would be sent out April 19, 2016. He cautioned residents to check their facts when discussing crime in Antioch and suggested utilizing crimereports.com to do so.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Coordinator Ho announced burglary was down 34.5% which he attributed to proactive enforcement and community involvement

through Neighborhood Watch. He stated he would forward an article discussing these facts to Neighborhood Watch Block Captains.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Lieutenant Bittner for his hard work and encouraged residents to continue to report suspicious activity. He suggested Neighborhood Watch groups to make call sheets available to their participants.

Betty, Neighborhood Watch Block Captain, displayed an invitation she sent out to her Neighborhood Watch participants to encourage participation.

A speaker stated she was interested in becoming involved in gang intervention separate from Neighborhood Watch. She questioned how to find out more information on reporting gang tagging.

Lieutenant Bittner explained tagging should be reported as it was documented for the officers in the gang unit. He noted the information could be provided anonymously.

Commissioner Davis added that anonymous tips could be provided through the tipsoft program.

Coordinator Ho added tip soft could be accessed through crimereports.com.

Commissioner Taylor added there was also a graffiti abatement program.

A speaker reported the manager at her apartment complex was working to communicate with other managers in her area to address concerns in their neighborhood.

Chairperson Gadams announced the following meeting/presentation/event schedule.

8. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- **April 2, 2016 – Neighborhood Cleanup**
- **April 18, 2016 –Crime Prevention Commission meeting**

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Commissioners Taylor, Parham, Solorio, Davis and Chairperson Gadams
Absent: Commissioner Williams and Thurston

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 18, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.