

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

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

**April 15, 2019
Police Department Community Room**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson White called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M., on April 15, 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
Officer, Matt Summers
Officer, Tom Lenderman
Coordinator, Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

3. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson White welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited any first time attending Neighborhood Watch/Business Watch Block Captains or visitors to introduce themselves.

Fernando Peniche introduced himself as a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain for the Prewett Ranch area.

Chairperson White welcomed Mr. Peniche 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 (March 18, 2019)

On motion by Commissioner Eubanks, seconded by Commissioner LaPoint the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of March 18, 2019 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Thurston, Eubanks, LaPoint and Chairperson White

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Fernando Peniche reported that he had been threatened by homeless in his neighborhood. He also noted that illegal dumping was occurring. He stated he had provided a license plate

number of the person responsible to the Antioch Police Department and he questioned how they responded to these types of call for service.

Lieutenant Mendes responded that if the Antioch Police Department was provided with a license plate number, an officer would respond and attempt to identify the responsible. She noted if they were successful they would get them to retrieve and dispose of their property; however, if they could not identify a person involved, they would contact the disposal company to have it cleaned up.

In response to Mr. Peniche, Officer Lenderman commented that the City did not have jurisdiction to remove property in the area of the railroad tracks; however, they had authority to affect a trespassing arrest. He noted if it was not possible to remove the property that day, an arrest was ineffective because they would only be issued a citation. He commented that homelessness was not illegal; however, if a person refused to leave the property and BNSF was present to clean it up, they could make an arrest and take them to the APD to dispose of their property. He noted it was difficult to get the County to file charges on trespassing arrests.

Commissioner Thurston stated if Mr. Peniche felt physically threatened, he should call 911.

Lieutenant Mendes reminded residents that police calls were answered based on priority. She encouraged residents to refrain from engaging the homeless and to call dispatch so officers could respond to address the situation.

Commissioner Thurston encouraged Mr. Peniche to continue to report these issues to Antioch Police Department.

Officer Summers informed Mr. Peniche that the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design program (CPTED) was available. He noted that anyone interested in having the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPs) provide an assessment of their property, could contact Coordinator Ho to schedule an evaluation.

6. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

“Repeat Offenders, Trespassing” by CET Officers Matt Summers and Tom Lenderman

Officers Matt Summers and Tom Lenderman introduced themselves as the Antioch Police Department’s Community Engagement Team (CET) and gave a PowerPoint presentation of “Repeat Offenders, Trespassing” which included the following information:

- CET deals with Quality of Life issues
- There are over 30 different types of trespassing
- What applied mostly in Antioch today -
 - Penal Code 602 (m) entering or occupying real property or structures of any kind without consent of the owner
 - Penal Code 602 (n) involving driving onto real property without the owner’s consent

- Penal Code 603 (o) – refusing to leave land, real property or structures not open to the general public upon being requested to leave by a peace officer or other agent etc.
- “Real Property” was not a public business
- If someone trespasses and they are contacted by the owner, manager or person in charge but refuse to leave, the CET team would respond to address with the situation
- If APD responds to the property and informs the person they are not allowed to be there and they return, they are subject to arrest
- Under Penal Code 602 trespassers have to be notified that they are trespassing
- Penal Code 602.1 (a) any person who intentionally interferes with a lawful business or occupation open to the public by obstructing or intimidating those attempting to carry on business or their customers and refuses to leave after being requested is guilty of misdemeanor -
 - Example – Solicitors are allowed to be at Walmart; however, they cannot block the egress and ingress of the business and they are to stay 20-feet from the main door
- Property owners can provide a letter to APD indicating they are the lawful owner, they do not give anyone permission to be on the property and they are allowing the Antioch Police Department to enter the property to remove them
- Letters are logged into the APD database so any officer responding has access to the information – contact information is important so the Antioch Police Department can contact to verify if they still want prosecution
- Samples letters were available from APD via email
- Trespass Log Program – for repeat offenders of panhandling, drinking, loitering -
 - Contact is made and the person is informed if they return they will be arrested
 - Responding officers contact the store owner or employee to determine if they want the responsible warned not to trespass
 - If they do, the responsible name, date of birth and who admonished them would be documented on a sheet in a binder that remained in the store
 - If they want them arrested, they sign a citizen’s arrest
 - Minimally they are handcuffed and taken down the street
 - If the responsible returns to the property the same night, the person is arrested and taken to Martinez, as a likely to continue
 - This tool allowed APD to document and escalate from verbal warning – citation - in custody arrest - taken to Martinez
- The store must refuse service because if they sell to the responsible, they give them a lawful reason to be there

In response to speakers and the Commission, they provided the following information:

- Vacant buildings are the problem that draw the homeless in and the long term solution was to occupy or removed the building
- CVS has hired a cleanup crew to keep their property maintained
- Big Lots is also attempting to improve their property
- CET often patrols parking lots with issues 2-3 times a week - 2 times daily

A speaker reported a property in her neighborhood had been boarded up for years regardless of the City code which states that a property boarded up for longer than 6-months had to be repaired and maintained. She questioned how Code Enforcement was allowing this to continue.

Officer Summers encouraged the speaker to discuss this issue with the Code Enforcement Department.

Officer Lenderman reported there were many programs to assist the homeless; however, many choose the lifestyle or have mental deficiencies.

Chairperson White spoke about a person who loitered at bus stop on Dallas Ranch Road.

Officer Lenderman stated he had had many contacts with this individual and he had tried to get a trespass letter from Tri Delta Transit who would not cooperate.

Chairperson White responded that she had initially called Tri-Delta who instructed her to call the APD.

In response to a speaker, Officer Lenderman stated that the trespass book remained with the property so it could be accessible to the APD and property owner.

In response to a speaker, Officer Lenderman stated many businesses such as, fast food restaurants and convenience stores had trespass logs.

A speaker reported that there were many trailers, cars and homeless encampments behind Home Depot in Pittsburg.

Officer Lenderman responded that the homeless were migrating east and they were contacting 2-3 new people a day. He explained that BART stopping in the area and the methadone clinic were major draws. He noted the homeless population almost tripled in one year.

Coordinator Ho stated trespass logs were available via email. He noted that he also had Business Watch booklets available this evening.

A speaker reported that there was a tent located on Gentrytown near the walking trail.

Commissioner Eubanks stated that the process seemed complicated.

Lieutenant Mendes clarified to address trespassing the property/business owner needed to contact APD to inform them that they did not want the person on their property anymore. She noted they were then given a trespass warning and their name was logged in the book with an event number, date and time. If they return, the property/business owner called the APD and they respond, and make an arrest.

Officer Lenderman stated if the property/business owner called APD and they want an individual on their property entered in the trespass log, they should inform dispatch. He noted that would go into the log screen and the officer would follow up with the person who called.

Commissioner Eubanks stated he would like to put together a flow chart of the process to distribute to Block Captains.

Officer Lenderman commented that they had the process available for businesses. He noted the only requirement was that the person trespassing had to be notified that they were trespassing and if they refused to leave or came back, they were subject to arrest.

Chairperson White thanked the CET team for the presentation.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

Business Watch Implementation – Report by Chairperson Thurston

- Antioch Marina

Commissioner Eubanks reported that the Antioch Marina Business Watch was proceeding very well. He announced that the Marina, Delta Kayak Adventures, Smith's Landing, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, Antioch Historical Society and Bay Indoor RV and Boat participated. He noted that their concerns were with repeated offenders damaging properties and breaking into facilities. He reported that their next meeting was on April 24, 2019 at the Marina. He thanked Coordinator Ho for his assistance in providing Business Watch signage.

Coordinator Ho reported that Business Watch signage was also installed at the Umpqua Bank property.

- Somersville Town Center

Commissioner Eubanks reported that the Security Director at the mall had retired and he was awaiting the new director to be hired, so they could resume meetings.

- Umpqua Bank

Commissioner LaPoint reiterated that Umpqua bank had received their Business Watch signage and she would make contact to schedule their next meeting.

- L St and Sycamore

Commissioner Thurston reported that he was meeting with the owner of the Sycamore strip mall tomorrow to determine where to display their signage and he would also be meeting with additional businesses in the area.

Coordinator Ho asked Commissioner Thurston to return sign request forms to him.

- West Tregallas Road & Lone Tree Way

Chairperson White reported that she had not been back to Quick Stop and she would be working with Commissioner Thurston to schedule a time to visit the business.

- Blue Rock Merchants

Chairperson White reported that there had been no activity from the merchants to proceed with Business Watch in the area.

A speaker reported that there had been several car windows broken in the area and she questioned if that had stopped.

Chairperson White responded that nothing had been reported to her and she would follow up on that issue.

Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee – Report by Commissioner White

Chairperson White announced the next Best Practices Committee meeting would be held in June and requested that anyone wishing to attend provide her with their contact information so they could be notified when the date and time was determined.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Eubanks requested the APD provide the Commission with any new program information that they would like passed along to Neighborhood Watch groups.

Lieutenant Mendes stated there was no new programming at this time; however, if the Commission had ideas based on feedback they were receiving, they could notify her and they would attempt to provide a presentation on the item. She stated she was currently doing a Facebook post to draw attention to the Police Crime Prevention Commission meetings.

9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Commission

Commissioner Eubanks reported that one of the Block Captain's in his area had called and text him to request a Neighborhood Watch meeting. He noted the information being sent out to Block Captains from Coordinator Ho had been successful.

Coordinator Ho requested that Commissioner Eubanks inform him when the time and date of the Neighborhood Watch meeting, when it was determined.

Commissioner Eubanks reported that Block Captain Sandra Kelly was holding a meeting and would be having a CPTED presentation.

Sandra Kelly invited all Block Captains to the meeting at Solar Swim and Gym at 7:00 P.M. on April 25, 2019.

Commissioner Eubanks reported that there was a homeless person living in the Marina area who was troublesome and the CET team had been successful at cleaning up the environment. He noted a lot of hard work had been done by the CET team and the Marina Business Watch group was appreciative. He also noted that a resident had reported that gas siphoning had been occurring.

Commissioner Thurston reported a citizen contacted an individual who was engaged in illegal dumping on Wilbur Avenue and told him to stop, informed him that he would be calling the police and took photos. He noted the individual then began to pack up his belongings. He suggested anyone witnessing this type of activity to call APD and let them respond to the situation.

Chairperson White reminded residents to not leave items in view in their vehicles, even in their driveways.

Commissioner Thurston encouraged residents to close their blinds when leaving their homes.

Chairperson White stated as summer gets closer residents should remember to close their windows and back doors.

Commissioner Thurston added that when leaving the house for any length of time, residents should set their alarms.

Commissioner Eubanks requested an update on the city's speed bump program.

Lieutenant Mendes explained that applications for speed bumps could be done through the City Engineer's office. She stated she would try to get someone to come to the Commission to make a presentation.

Coordinator Ho stated he would add it to the list of ideas for future presentations to the Commission.

Staff

- National Night Out Grant Application

Coordinator Ho announced that there were applications for National Night Out available this evening and tomorrow it would be sent out via email to all Block Captains. He noted instructions were included with the forms and once completed they needed to be returned to the APD. He reported that a doorbell surveillance technology presentation would be given by the APD, at the May Commission meeting.

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

10. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- May 4, 2019 – Neighborhood Clean Up – 11:00 A.M. at Fremont Elementary School, 1413 F Street
- May 20, 2019 – Crime Prevention Commission meeting – 7:00 P.M.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Fernando Peniche questioned if it was illegal to place a surveillance camera on a city lamp post.

Lieutenant Mendes responded that it was not illegal to record a public place if the camera was located on private property; however, it could not observe a neighbor's private property.

A speaker questioned if it was illegal to place items to give away on a public street.

Lieutenant Mendes stated that items could not impede sidewalks or the street and if it was located on private property, it would be a Code Enforcement issue.

Commissioner Thurston reported that if the garbage company was contacted to pick it up, it would be acceptable.

Commissioner LaPoint reported that Republic Waste had two large/extra item pickups per year.

Commissioner Thurston reported that Council was considering increasing the Code Enforcement division with the next budget.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Thurston, 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 8:06 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on May 20, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Kitty Eiden

KITTY EIDEN, Minutes Clerk