

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California
May 18, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gadams called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., on May 18, 2015 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Lieutenant Aguinaga welcomed newly appointed Commissioners Thurston and Solorio.

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

Absent: Commissioner Taylor

Staff: Lieutenant, Diane Aguinaga
Police Sergeant, Desmond Bittner
Police Officer, Matt Harger
Coordinator, Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (April 20, 2015)

On motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Thurston the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of April 20, 2015 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

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

Absent: Commissioner Taylor

Chairperson Gadams welcomed new Commissioners Thurston and Solorio and thanked them for their willingness to serve. He announced he would be passing around a card for everyone to sign that he would present to former Commissioner Bill Cook.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Pedrazu, representing the Center for Human Development Alcohol Prevention Program, provided an update of operations, in coordination with the Antioch Police Department, for the on and off sell of alcoholic beverages as well as DUI arrests and the

DUI checkpoint. She encouraged residents to continue to report any nuisances or loud parties.

Garry Holman, Antioch resident, commended the Antioch Police Department for supporting the Center for Human Development and other local agencies. He questioned why criminal activities were occurring by people coming into Antioch from outside of the area.

Lieutenant Aguinaga responded that many of the people involved in criminal activities were from Antioch; however, they had ties outside the area and identified themselves as being from two different communities. She noted affordable housing and freeway access had attracted people to the area.

Chairperson Gadams added that criminal activity was declining with more people reporting criminal behavior and suspicious activities.

Lieutenant Aguinaga reported recently a bank robber had been apprehended due to a citizen who provided the license plate number to the Antioch Police Department.

Chairperson Gadams recognized Councilmember Ogorchock and new Neighborhood Watch participants in attendance

6. COMMISSION / STAFF REPORTS

a. Presentation by: Antioch Police Department K9 Unit

Police Officer Matt Harger and his K-9 Donna gave a presentation on the Antioch K-9 Unit which included the following information:

- The Antioch K-9 Unit currently consists of 5 dogs and handlers.
- Belgian Malinois and German Sheppard breeds were selected for their work ethic, drive and health.
- Dogs were imported from Europe, came titled in a sport and were taught obedience, search techniques and how to bite.
- Dogs were approximately 18 months to 4 years old when purchased and worked approximately 5-6 years on the street with the average life expectancy of 8-9 years.
- Dogs were used for their sense of smell for narcotic detection, evidence/building/area search and blood hound scent work.
- When a K-9 located someone they were trained to bark alert, at which time the Officer attempted to get compliance. If a person failed to comply, the dog was used to apprehend them..
- Dogs lived with handlers and worked with Officers daily.
- They obtained stable and social dogs that were good with children.

In response to the public, Officer Harger explained a breeding program required a lot of time and there were no guarantees offspring would be suitable for a K-9 program; therefore it was not feasible for a small department like Antioch. He noted dogs were purchased through a vendor in Southern California who sold them to departments throughout the United States. He further noted when dogs retired they lived out their lives with the handler and explained that they agreed to 4 years of service within the K-9 program and at the end of that service the City sold the dog to the Officer for \$1.00. He commented that larger dogs could track for longer periods of time and had more stamina. He added that there were instances when smaller dogs were used for search and rescue as well as for customs because they could fit into smaller spaces. He noted the sex of the dog is not significant to their performance. He stated that search warrant requirements needed to be followed with regards to property searches.

In response to Commissioner Davis, he explained that he was Coordinator of the K-9 unit when they were conducting a training exercise in a warehouse that resulted in a K-9 alerting to burglars in the process of stealing copper wire from within the training facility.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, he reported dogs were injured in the field; however, they had a high tolerance of pain. He noted he did not allow his K-9 to engage unless he was there to assist. He stated they looked for dogs that would continue working through a physical confrontation and noted any person assaulting a police dog was charged with additional charges. He reported his first dog Thor was shot in the line of duty, returned to work a few weeks later and continued to work for several more years. He noted all dogs had vests that were put on, when time permitted.

Officer Harger invited the audience outside for a demonstration.

b. Subcommittee: Garbage and Recycling Bins

Commissioner Davis discussed his concerns regarding people rummaging through recycling and refuse cans on garbage day. He stated anyone wishing to serve on a subcommittee to address this issue could meet with him after the meeting. He noted the goal was to meet with Republic Services and City Manager Duran to determine if anything could be done to address this problem. He encouraged residents to shred important documents prior to placing them in a recycling receptacle.

Steve Huddleston reported that once garbage cans were placed off the curb they were no longer the property of the resident.

A resident reported that a neighbor had set out sofas and someone dumped garbage out onto the street so he could place the sofa on top of the receptacle.

Commissioner Davis stated this issue was occurring in other jurisdictions and it would be advantageous to research what was being done to prevent it from occurring.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Commissioner Davis for leading this effort. He stated the issue was discussed often and this would be a good opportunity for the community to work with Former Mayor Davis.

7. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

a. Commission

Commissioner Parham reported she had attended a meeting at First 5 and a speaker from Community Violence Solutions discussed human trafficking. She suggested this presentation be agendaized for the Police Crime Prevention Commission.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Commissioner Parham stated that Contra Costa County was the number one County in California for human trafficking and San Francisco was the number one destination in the world.

Coordinator Ho requested Commissioner Parham provide contact information so that he could attempt to schedule a presentation for the July meeting.

A resident reported she had a friend whose son was the victim of an attempted kidnapping, which had been prevented by his mother. She urged residents to be mindful of their children.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Commissioner Parham for bringing this issue to the attention of the Commission and public.

Commissioner Davis announced Coffee With the Cops would be held on May 30, 2015.

Commissioner Williams discussed the recent kidnapping attempt in Campbell and the important role video cameras played in providing key information to apprehend the person responsible. She recommended residents install video cameras. She announced Coffee With the Cops would be held at 9:00 A.M. on May 30, 2015 in the Police Department Community room and encouraged residents to attend.

Chairperson Gadams stated Coffee With the Cops was a great event that engaged citizens and he urged all residents to attend.

Commissioner Thurston stated he was thankful to be able to serve on the Commission and encouraged anyone needing his assistance to contact him. He reported he had received phone calls regarding malware on his computer and he cautioned residents that these individuals were attempting to gain access to computers.

Commissioner Parham added a fraudulent email was sent to a relative from what appeared to be Amazon with a link and once she followed the link, they were able to gain access to her book of business. She encouraged residents to not open emails if their origin is unknown.

Chairperson Gadams thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting and everyone who had reported suspicious activity.

b. Staff

Coordinator Ho announced the deadline for National Night Out grant applications was June 26, 2015. He noted the front page of the application and the minimum of 15 adults were needed with submittals. He further noted applications could be mailed to Lieutenant Aguinaga or turned in the lobby of the Antioch Police Department.

Lieutenant Aguinaga reported she had also received calls fraudulent calls on her work phone and this issue was a common occurrence. She announced Chief Cantando would provide an update on the City's hiring efforts at Coffee With the Cops. She announced he had made a portfolio that included all the new hires since the City received their grant. She stated attrition remained a problem and announced Lieutenant Vanderklugt would be retiring.

Chairperson Gadams announced the following events.

8. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- a. June 6, 2015 – Neighborhood Cleanup Event – Prosserville Park**
- b. June 15, 2015 – Crime Prevention Commission Meeting**

Lieutenant Aguinaga reported the Volunteer in Police Services Ron Van Den Baard had emergency surgery over the weekend and lost his leg. She noted he was in Walnut Creek Kaiser and would welcome any phone calls or visits.

Chairperson Gadams reported at the next meeting there would be a presentation from the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Continued

Dick Augusta announced he purchased tickets to the Oakland A's versus the Yankees game for Former Chairperson Cook and Chairperson Gadams.

Chairperson Gadams encouraged residents to report expired tags and inoperable vehicles to the Volunteers in Police Services.

In response to a speaker, Chairperson Gadams stated inoperable vehicles or those with expired tags located on private property should be reported to Code Enforcement.

Linda Crossen suggested residents having reoccurring problems in their neighborhood should report it to the Antioch Police Department and request an event number noting it would fuel what was needed for a landlord or owner to start an eviction process.

A speaker reported that a resident in their neighborhood was selling marijuana and they had reported it many times; however, the Antioch Police Department did not respond fast enough to apprehend them.

Coordinator Ho suggested the speaker provide Lieutenant Aguinaga with the address of the house in question so that she would look up the statistics and report back to her.

Janie Yuds warned residents not to approach suspicious persons or vehicles and report the information to the Antioch Police Department.

Commissioner Williams suggested residents add the Antioch Police Department non emergency number 778-2441 to their phone contacts.

Lieutenant Aguinaga added the tip soft program was specifically for reporting knowledge of a crime after the fact. In response to a speaker, she noted emergencies should be reported to 911.

A resident reported he called 911 to report a theft which included loaded weapons and was told it was not an immediate crime and to fill out a report online. He noted he had walked into his home when it was occurring and those responsible fled the scene.

Lieutenant Aguinaga responded that officers should have been dispatched. She stated complaint forms were available at the Antioch Police Department. She offered to get the speaker a form and stated once filled out it would go to an internal affairs officer to investigate.

A speaker asked how effective speed signs were noting over the past weekend someone ran into their retaining wall and fence.

Police Sergeant Bittner stated speed signs were effective if drivers were responsible. He stated he believed he was on duty when this incident occurred and this case had involved children. He added that the City Engineer was responsible for speed limit signs.

Chairperson Gadams added that the radar trailer could be requested by the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS).

Lieutenant Aguinaga stated the radar trailers were put out by the VIPS; however, due to limited staffing they were only being placed two days per week and the priority locations were crosswalks and DUI enforcement. She added that the trailer could not be out at night or placed on curves and placement was considered on a case by case basis.

Mark Davidson expressed concern regarding ongoing garage sales occurring in his neighborhood that caused an issue with parking and access to his driveway.

Lieutenant Aguinaga suggested Mr. Davidson report this issue to Code Enforcement.

Chairperson Gadams suggested making a record of what was occurring.

Larry Harrison suggested facilities that accept recycling refuse to accept them from people who were collecting it from other resident's receptacles.

Chairperson Gadams suggested Mr. Harrison work with Commission Davis on the subcommittee regarding this issue.

Sandra McGee stated recycling refunds could not be stopped as residents paid for recycling when the item was purchased.

Commissioner Parham added recycling facilities required contact information and she felt it would be a good idea to track those individuals.

A resident suggested a future meeting provide information on best practices to encourage participation in Neighborhood Watch groups.

Chairperson Gadams thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

A resident reported the go request app was very beneficial.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Taylor

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on June 15, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.

