

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California  
July 20, 2015

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Gadams called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., on July 20, 2015 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Solorio led the audience and Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Commissioner Williams

Staff: Chief of Police, Allan Cantando  
Lieutenant, Diane Aguinaga  
Coordinator, Hans Ho  
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 15, 2015)**

On motion by Commissioner Thurston, seconded by Commissioner Solorio the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of June 15, 2015 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

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

Absent: Commissioner Williams

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Fred Rouse, Antioch resident, suggested the City increase fines for illegal dumping and develop a safety plan to address the future eBART station. He requested clarification with regards to the First Quarter 2015 Crime Statistics.

Chief Cantando explained BART had its own Police Department that would be responsible for the station and he had already discussed safety procedures with them. Speaking to the First Quarter 2015 Crime Statistics, he clarified part one crime was

down and arrests were up which he attributed to proactive weekly details. He added convictions were a function of the District Attorney.

Laura Padraza, Center for Human Development Minor and Youth Alcohol Prevention Program, provided an update of their operations in partnership with the Antioch Police Department and thanked them for their enforcement efforts. She announced they were seeking volunteers to assist with decoy operations. She stated pamphlets and flyers were available in the community room this evening.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Ms. Padraza explained she oversaw operations in Antioch and Walnut Creek which had different demographics; however, she would attempt to find data on how information was tracked. She noted there was less of an issue in Walnut Creek but Antioch had double the enforcement.

## **6. COMMISSION / STAFF REPORTS**

### **a. NNO Gift card presentation**

Coordinator Ho and Chief Cantando presented gift cards for National Night Out (NNO).

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Coordinator Ho gave a brief description of the NNO event. He requested groups starting later than 6:00 P.M. notify him so that he could make sure City officials visits would occur during their events.

Chairperson Gadams added that NNO ended at 9:00 P.M. and if anyone had questions they could email Commissioners. He announced the August Crime Prevention Commission meeting had been cancelled.

### **b. Presentation by: Human Trafficking – Lucia Ray Guillen Community Violence Solutions**

Lucia Ray Guillen gave an overhead presentation on Human Trafficking which included the following:

- Community Violence Solutions is a nonprofit local rape crisis center that provides services to adult and child victims of a sexual crime and domestic violence
- There is a 24-hour crisis line available, 365 days per year and they cover Contra Costa and Marin Counties
- Human trafficking includes labor and sex trafficking and the Bay Area is the number two location in the United States for these crimes
- Youth runaways, homeless or those who do not have support at home are more at risk
- Community Violence Solutions was under the Zero Tolerance Coalition for domestic violence funded through the office of victim crime and they partner with various agencies with 98% of referrals coming from the Police Department

- Trafficking is a Federal crime only if it comes from outside the area and occasionally they work with the Federal Government
- Human trafficking is underreported and victims are exploited for commercial sex or labor purposes
- Within sex trafficking there is adult and commercially sexually exploited youth
- Physical movement is not necessary
- Force, fraud and coercion must be proven except for cases involving commercially sexually exploited youth
- Traffickers including; male/female pimps, tennis shoe pimps (in schools), romeo/boyfriend pimps, guerilla pimps, organized crime, gang members, family members and acquaintances
- Victims come from various foreign countries
- Common locations include; message parlors, brothels, strip clubs, escort services, online exploitation, streets or tracks, motel, homes or trap houses
- Sexual exploitation of children was an emerging national problem and it was defined as a child who was sexually trafficked or who received food and/or shelter in exchange for sex
- Minor victims are predominately female ages 13-18 with some as young as 10
- The average age of entry into the commercial sex industry is 11 years old and the trend is getting younger
- Typical victims are runaways from foster or group homes
- Chronic abuse, neglect or homophobia lead to homelessness and commercial sexual exploitation
- 1 in 3 teens report they were recruited within 48 hours of becoming homeless
- Group homes and youth shelters were recruiting grounds
- 70-90% of sexually exploited youth have a history of sexual abuse
- Victims experience isolation, degradation, physical, sexual, mental and financial abuse, threats of harm to them or their loved ones, sexually transmitted infections, lack of health care, sleep deprivation, forced drug use and no knowledge of their location.
- Indicators include victims who; are not free to come and go, have a lack of knowledge of their whereabouts, live and work in the same location, work excessively long or unusual hours, owe a large debt, are unpaid or paid very little or only through tips, are recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of work, show signs of physical or sexual abuse, have few or no personal possessions, are not in control of their own money, have no financial or identification records
- Labor trafficking is harboring, transporting or obtaining a person for labor or services with the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of servitude, bondage or slavery
- Trafficking typically occurs in agriculture and farms, domestic work, strip clubs, restaurants, factories, peddling and begging and the hospitality industry
- Victims could have a fear of captors, law enforcement, deportation, stigmatization and retaliation as well as a lack of awareness of the law, benefits and protections
- How to help – recognize the persons victimization, shape language used and use services when a potential victim is identified

- Community Violence Solutions provides victims with crisis intervention, counseling, therapy, housing/food/clothing assistance, medical care, social services and legal assistance.

Ms. Guillen provided contact information and stated additional information was available in the community room this evening.

In response to the Commission, she stated there had been many cases in Antioch; however, they would like to receive more referrals. She noted there had been instances where victims were working as fruit vendors or being sold by their peers. She further noted possession of multiple cell phones and tattoo branding were indicators. She commented some persons were referred to them after their arrest. She explained that it was difficult to call in a tip for labor trafficking because force, fraud and coercion needed to be proven; however, law enforcement should be notified immediately if trafficking was suspected.

Chief Cantando stated the labor issue was difficult as many victims were Hispanic who feared law enforcement. He noted sexual exploitation was latent and they investigated those cases. He further noted it was a target rich environment and the DA had the option of filing charges or having the victim seek services through Community Violence Solution. He reported he had sat on their Board and every year they faced budget issues. He added contributions could be made through their website. He explained there was a huge financial gain for those exploiting people repeatedly and it was a matter of demand and getting people into the system for services.

Chairperson Gadams announced Ms. Guillen would be available after the meeting for anyone who had additional questions.

### **c. Subcommittee – Garbage and Recycling Bins**

Commissioner Davis explained the Garbage and Recycling Bins subcommittee was formed to address people rummaging through trash receptacles. He stated he had talked to Tim Argenti, from Republic Waste Services who informed him other cities had adopted ordinances to address the issue and he would be providing the subcommittee with sample ordinances. Additionally, he noted some jurisdictions were placing stickers on cans warning that removal of items was a violation of the law. He announced the subcommittee met this evening and would be meeting again to discuss how to present ideas to the City Council.

Chief Cantando reported Antioch had an ordinance regarding this matter; however, prosecution was not occurring as the problem was prevalent throughout the County.

## **7. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)**

### **a. Commission**

Commissioner Taylor asked if anyone attending the next City Council meeting would read something on her behalf, as she was unable to attend.

A community member offered to assist Commission Taylor.

Commissioner Taylor reminded the community the next Neighborhood Cleanup event would be held at Hillcrest Park on August 1, 2015. She announced persons attending her new Neighborhood Watch group had expressed frustration with Antioch Police Department's response times and indicated they did not report crime because of it. She discussed the importance of reporting suspicious activity. She stated she was excited for NNO and the opportunity for residents to have fun and connect with other neighbors. She suggested Neighborhood Watch groups participating in NNO address the following topics with attendees:

- Start or update their Nextdoor app
- Determine a safe house on their street
- Find out how to assist neighbors in turning off their utilities
- Put away garbage cans as soon as possible
- Identify neighbors that may need help in the event of an emergency
- The importance of homes being easy to find by emergency personnel
- The importance of good lighting
- Shredding documents to prevent identify theft
- Supporting local businesses to keep tax revenue within the City
- Providing voter registration cards

Commissioner Parham urged residents to be cautious when packing to go out of town as she had witnessed someone casing a neighbor's home when they were going on vacation. She stated she had called this neighbor who had returned home.

Commissioner Davis warned residents that fruit seized from street vendors was handled as hazardous material because they had found it was often contaminated and the only way to stop it from occurring was for residents to stop purchasing it. He urged residents to secure their homes, improve visibility and install lighting. He reported on his attendance at a new Neighborhood Watch group meeting on South Francisco Way.

Commission Thurston reported he had met with residents on 11th Street and Cleveland Place to start new Neighborhood Watch groups. He suggested residents install latch locks on their doors and discussed the importance of residents reporting suspicious activity. He stated he was participating in the Antioch Police Department Citizen's Academy which was very informative and recommended residents sign up for future programming. He requested the Police Crime Prevention Commission consider having one Commission member attend every City Council meeting to hear Public Comments.

Commissioner Solorio suggested with school starting soon, residents be mindful of children. He reported he had discussed Neighborhood Watch with a school principal who had expressed interest in participating in a group in the area. He announced he

had developed a list of personal safety apps which was available in the community room this evening.

**b. Staff**

Coordinator Ho stated the Citizens' Academy was very informative and suggested more residents participate.

Chief Cantando announced the Smoke Shop in the Deer Valley Plaza had gone out of business.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Chief Cantando reported the traffic officer had issued many citations. He added CHP had assisted for a day and would be doing so again this week.

A resident suggested GPS on cell phones for photos be disabled so people could not track their locations on social media.

A resident expressed concern for traffic from Canada Valley Road entering the Home Depot shopping center.

Chief Cantando responded that they were aware of the concern and it would be addressed.

Commissioner Taylor announced topic suggestion forms for Police Crime Prevention Commission meetings were available in the community room this evening.

Chairperson Gadams suggested residents utilize information call sheets and report suspicious activity. He agreed to make sure City Council meetings were attended by a Commissioner and suggested residents take their concerns to Council. He reported he had witnessed Antioch Police Department approaching a fruit vendor in his neighborhood, which had resulted in them leaving the area.

Chief Cantando stated they were making efforts to address fruit vendors and the County was involved in enforcement.

Chairperson Gadams stated fruit vendors were left all day in the sun and in unsanitary conditions and requested residents report them to the Antioch Police Department non-emergency number.

Janie Yuds suggested residents place their garbage cans on the curb the morning of service to avoid people rummaging through cans at night. She reported in Seattle residents were suing the City for allowing people to rummage through their garbage.

A resident reported she had been burglarized in May and she had been unable to obtain a report from the Antioch Police Department.

Lieutenant Aguinaga requested the speaker provide contact information so that she could research the issue and get back to her.

Steve Huddleston suggested residents report abandoned cars.

A resident expressed concern regarding incidents occurring at a foster home in her neighborhood.

Lieutenant Aguinaga responded that those issues should be reported to Community Care Licensing.

A resident reported drug dealing was occurring on Stamm Drive last month, which she had documented and reported. She stated the person was no longer living in the neighborhood and suggested residents document and report all suspicious behavior.

Commissioner Thurston urged residents witnessing illegal activity to report the incident to the Antioch Police Department and not Neighborhood Watch Block Captains.

Chairperson Gadams announced the following meetings and event schedule.

## **8. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS**

- a. August 1, 2015 – Neighborhood Cleanup**
- b. August 4, 2015 – National Night Out**
- c. August Crime Prevention Commission meeting - Cancelled**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Williams

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 21, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.