

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

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

**August 17, 2020  
Meeting Conducted Remotely**

*The City of Antioch, in response to the Executive Order of the Governor and the Order of the Health Officer of Contra Costa County concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), held Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting live stream (at [www.antiochca.gov/apcpc/meeting/](http://www.antiochca.gov/apcpc/meeting/)). The Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting was conducted utilizing Zoom Audio/Video Technology.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson White called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M., on August 17, 2020.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Eubanks, Lewis, LaPoint and Chairperson White

Absent: Commissioner Morales Corona

Staff: Lieutenant, Powell Meads  
Coordinator, Hans Ho  
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

**3. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS**

Chairperson White welcomed Staff and Commissioners.

New meeting attendees Antoinette Sullivan and Velma Wilson introduced themselves.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (July 20, 2020)**

On motion by Commissioner Lewis, seconded by Commissioner LaPoint the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of July 20, 2020 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Eubanks, Lewis, LaPoint and Chairperson White

Absent: Commissioner Morales Corona

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson White announced that Public Comment could be submitted utilizing the following:

- a) By filling out an online speaker card, located at [https://www.antiochca.gov/apcpc/speaker\\_card/](https://www.antiochca.gov/apcpc/speaker_card/)
- b) By emailing the Lieutenant Meads prior to or during the meeting at [rmeads@ci.antioch.ca.us](mailto:rmeads@ci.antioch.ca.us)
- c) By dialing (925) 779-6977 during the meeting.

She explained that the city cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted. To ensure that the Police Crime Prevention Commission receives your comments, you are strongly encouraged to submit your comments in writing in advance of the meeting.

## **6. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION**

“Operation Impact – Sycamore Community Youth Program” – Mission Possible Community Development Center of Antioch

Elvania Harbinson, Antoinette Sullivan and Eric Harbinson provided an overview of the “Operation Impact – Sycamore Community Youth Program” – Mission Possible Community Development Center of Antioch which included the following information:

- The program targeted at-risk school age children between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12th grades
- Primary goal was to serve residents of Antioch although East Contra Costa County residents would not be turned away
- The early intervention program would include tutorial services, constructive recreational activities, mentoring services
- Basketball Tournament was the focus for recruitment – Spring 2021
- Collaboration of efforts and services should begin Spring 2021 and should continue approximately 5-years
- Monitoring and graphing success would be measured for 5-years to determine the results and effectiveness of the program
- Creation of Dream Machine Development Program working side-by-side with the sports aspect of the program
- Demonstrate to the students how to create goals and paths early in life to ensure success
- Creating goals would keep youth out of treatment centers or programs geared to correct mischievous behaviors
- Attendees would be introduced to speakers from Antioch who had been successful
- Attendees would be introduced to books and videos to inspire them and encourage them to think in new ways
- Attendees would be taught how to utilize money as a tool
- Goal for basketball aspect was to create an environment youth can could together to develop skills sets around a sports activity
- Through basketball learn social adaptation, rule following, enhance skill sets around basketball, unity and working together in social environment with a diverse group of people

- Through basketball present activities which challenge the youth to grow and develop
- Mentorship and Educational aspects would be involved including critical thinking skills to deal with situations such as anxiety and issues at home
- Goal was to have the youth mature through the program and bring others into the program
- The team would introduce themselves to the community in early spring 2021 at which time they would be able to determine the amount of youth willing to participate which then the program being built
- Sponsorships from the community and businesses would be sought to help support activities
- Others would be brought in to mentor and present examples of success to the youth
- They would focus on the Sycamore community due to their needs but would not be restricted by that location
- They were looking to build the program into something Antioch could be proud of for years to come
- They were currently rebuilding their website to respond to COVID-19 guidelines
- Website - [Mpcdca.org](http://Mpcdca.org) – link Operation Impact

Chairperson White thanked everyone for the presentation and stated it sounded like a good program that was needed in Antioch.

In response to the Commission, Elvania and Antoinette provided the following additional information:

- Success, funding and support would determine the future beyond 5-years
- One aspect was to relay to the youth how important community was and once they aged out they would want to lead by example and share their success
- Goal was to pair the youth with mentors who would follow their success
- Youth would be involved in community activities
- A group of mentors would always be available when needed
- Parents would be involved in process
- Mentors could act as liaisons between child, teachers, and parents
- Children would be recruited through a Fun Day in the community at which time they would be hosting activities and presenting the program
- Program would be funded by donations, grants and sponsorships
- Goal was to inspire and motivate youth to achieve their goals
- Program would lead the youth to resources and inspire new ideas
- Pre-recorded videos from motivational speakers would be compiled for participants
- Mentorship requirements and expectations would be in place to vet participants
- Policies and procedures were being rewritten to address COVID-19 guidelines
- Input and participation from the Commission was welcomed
- Goal to groom the youth to be productive citizens in all aspects

Coordinator Ho offered to distribute any information provided by Operation Impact – Sycamore Community Youth Program to the Police Crime Prevention Commission via email.

Chairperson White expressed her appreciation to Elvania Harbinson, Antoinette Sullivan and Eric Harbinson for the presentation, and suggested that they focus on public outreach.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Business Watch Implementation – Report by Commission**

Commissioner Eubanks reported he contacted Gary Clausen from the Marina Business Watch program who indicated that he was preparing to hold a Business Watch meeting and would need zoom resources in the next two weeks.

Lieutenant Meads requested Commissioner Eubanks send him the date and time of the meeting so he could send him a link for the meeting.

**Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee – Report by Chairperson White**

Chairperson White stated they had not gathered the committee since COVID-19; however, she would be contacting Commissioner LaPoint to schedule one via Zoom, hopefully within the next month.

**Community Outreach Sub Committee, “Bridging the Gap” – Commissioner Lewis**

Commissioner Lewis reported the subcommittee consisted of Commissioner Eubanks, Morales and himself met to develop the program which he sent out to the Commission and staff following the July Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting. He explained that a lot of conversations were occurring around law enforcement in the community and he reported on his personal experience with law enforcement. He explained that since he began interacting with law enforcement it had changed his understanding of their role, viewpoints and how they responded to situations, which resulted in the birth of this program. He commented that the three different kinds of contact with police were arrest, detain and consensual which yielded different results. He noted community members may not understand what was occurring during police interactions which may result in taking the conversation differently than intended. He explained that Bridging the Gap would create the opportunity for people to have conversations with no tension or conflict and it would consist of four groups including parents, youth, faith-based community, and business owners. He noted the goal was to meet monthly for approximately one-hour with law enforcement to have dialogue around things they believed to be important in terms of bringing the community together.

Chairperson White stated that after she reviewed the program it sounded similar to what Mayor Wright and Councilmember Thorpe were attempting to implement.

Commissioner Lewis responded that he had shared the program with Mayor Wright so if they were doing something now, it was an offshoot of the Commission’s program.

Chairperson White recommended working with Council to coordinate the programs and discuss the program with Chief Brooks.

Commissioner Lewis responded that he wanted to see if there was support from the Commission prior to taking it to Chief Brooks.

Commissioner Eubanks stated that while it was a good idea to have police presence at the meetings, the role of the Commission was to be a liaison between the Antioch Police Department and the community. He noted if Officers had to come offline to attend meetings it would defeat the purpose.

In response to Commissioner Lewis, Lieutenant Meads clarified that engaging with members of the community was strongly encouraged by Chief Brooks and there was no specific unit to perform that task. He noted that that was one of the roles of the Community Engagement Team but it was not their sole purpose.

Commissioner Lewis stated the structure of this program was approximately 4-hours per month which was very intentional and there would be themes so the conversation would be guided. He noted people could come with questions prior to the meeting and hopefully develop a consensus before moving forward.

Commissioner Eubanks questioned what value a Commissioner would offer if an officer would be attending.

Commissioner Lewis stated that as a community member the Commissioner's perspective may differ.

Commissioner Eubanks expressed concern regarding overutilizing or overtaxing the Antioch Police Department and reiterated that the Commissioners job was to be the liaison/facilitator.

Commissioner Lewis responded that the challenge was that the Commission was not an expert in officer protocol so there were conversations that only law enforcement could facilitate. He stated this would provide a safe and comfortable place for the Community Engagement Team to hold those conversations.

Chairperson White stated she believed this program was beyond the scope of the Commission regarding utilizing resources such as officers time. She recommended Commissioner Lewis present the program to Chief Brooks to determine if he would allocate resources and from there come back to the Commission for more dialogue.

Commissioner Lewis stated he was focused on the Community Engagement Team who were committed to providing those services.

Chairperson White commented that she would want a commitment from Chief Brooks that the community engagement team would be available for at least 4-hours per month to attend

meetings. She proposed tabling the conversation until there was an opportunity for Commissioner Lewis to have a conversation with Chief Brooks and then bring it back to the Commission for more dialogue.

Coordinator Ho agreed and recommended the committee meet with Chief Brooks to determine if there was a commitment to manpower and reach out to Mayor Wright and Councilmember Thorpe to make sure that the Commission was not usurping their goals.

Chairperson White stated the goal was to not have this become a political issue and ensure the Commission was following protocol by consulting with Chief Brooks, Mayor Wright and Councilmember Thorpe.

Lieutenant Meads reported that he had spoken with Chief Brooks after he received the proposal and his position was that while he believed it was a great program, it was very similar to what Council was doing in lieu of the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Police Reform. He commented that he did not want to be counterproductive to that process. He stated Chief Brooks' recommendation was to reach out to Councilmember Thorpe and Mayor Wright and work with them to accomplish their goals.

## **8. NEW ITEMS TO BE AGENDIZED FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

In response to Commissioner Eubanks, Lieutenant Meads reported the window stickers for the alarm program were completed and waiting for Chief Brooks' approval. He noted once approved, they would be sent to be produced.

Coordinator Ho requested Lieutenant Meads provide an update on the status of the orders before or at the next Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting.

## **9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Commission**

Commissioner LaPoint thanked Lieutenant Meads for helping her with a homeless situation and providing an answer for her Block Captain.

Chairperson White reported that Tri Delta Transit had started removing benches and replacing them with stools at bus stops, and the purpose was to provide people waiting for busses a place to sit. She discussed the importance of working with the homeless to make sure they are receiving the resources needed.

### **Antioch Police Department**

Lieutenant Meads reported two candidates for the Police Crime Prevention Commission should be voted on by the City Council at the August 25, 2020 City Council meeting. If they are approved, they should be seated at the September meeting.

Sandra White announced the following meeting and event schedule.

**10. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS**

- Neighborhood Clean Up – None Scheduled
- Police Crime Prevention Commission – 7:00 P.M. on September 21, 2020, Online

Coordinator Ho explained that Neighborhood Cleanups were done by Volunteer in Police Services (VIPS) and the VIPS program had been suspended due to COVID-19 because most participants were in high risk groups. He noted until the VIPS were revitalized, Neighborhood Cleanup events would be cancelled. He reported it had also caused a backlog in abandoned auto calls. He announced there was a request for a Neighborhood Watch meeting at the apartment complex on Worrell and they had been meeting outdoors in a group of 10 or less. He commented that he would email Commissioners with the date and time, and he would be requesting a Commissioner attend to make a presentation.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following public comments were read into the record by Lieutenant Meads.

Wayne Steffen provided written comment questioning how “see click fix” items were processed noting that he had reported two items, which had been closed by staff prior to the issues being resolved.

Coordinator Ho commented that see click fix was a function of Public Works who forwarded requests to the proper 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 Eubanks, Lewis, LaPoint and Chairperson White  
Absent: Commissioner Morales Corona

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 21, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

*Kitty Eiden*  
KITTY EIDEN, Minutes Clerk