

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California
September 21, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gadams called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., on September 21, 2015 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. ROLL CALL

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (July 20, 2015)

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

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

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.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Ms. Padraza for the report.

Karen Singh requested an update on the human trafficking issue and questioned what could be done with regards to shopping carts being removed from store properties. She suggested signage be required at retail establishments indicating they would prosecute

for carts taken from their property. She expressed concern stun guns were being sold in catalogs and available to the general public.

Commissioner Taylor responded that she would provide Ms. Singh with a phone number for shopping cart retrieval service and explained signage had not been an effective deterrent.

Chief Cantando added the City Council would be considering an ordinance dealing with this issue in the near future.

Commissioner Thurston added that there was a device available that prevented carts from leaving store properties.

Commissioner Davis added a shopping cart cost \$300.00 - \$500.00 and some devices had been effective at preventing them from being taken.

Janie Yuds stated she had a similar problem with grocery carts in her neighborhood and when attempts to get them picked up failed she threatened to use them for a planter which had resulted in immediate action to retrieve them.

Chief Cantando added the stores would not prosecute for stolen carts and the District Attorney would not file a case because when confronted, people did not admit the cart was stolen.

Commissioner Solario stated human trafficking was an international problem and would not be resolved locally.

Commissioner Thurston noted fruit vendors were often victims of human trafficking and should be reported to the Antioch Police Department non emergency number.

6. COMMISSION / STAFF REPORTS

a. Presentation by: Commissioner Solario on Safety related phone apps

Commissioner Solario gave a power point presentation of the following safety related phone apps:

- Life 360
- Silent Beacon
- Gymse
- Run Safe
- Stop Attack
- Kitestring
- BSafe
- Safe Trek
- Crisis Alert

- Eye Watch
- Big Red Button
- Guard My Angel
- My Force
- Street Safe
- Antioch Police Department

Chairperson Gadams thanked Commissioner Solorio for the presentation.

7. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

a. Commission

In response to Commissioner Taylor, Chief Cantando explained the Tip-A-Cop event was not placed on the Antioch Police Department app until Wednesday; however, it was posted on the Antioch Police Department facebook page and East County Today. He noted they would be adding more events to the app alert. He reported Tip-A-Cop was successful and he recognized Antioch Police Officers who donated time for the event.

Commissioner Taylor reported property crime spiked after Apple released new products. She cautioned residents not to focus on their phones and pay attention when out in public. She questioned if Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting minutes could be sent out to neighborhood watch groups to encourage more participation.

Coordinator Ho stated minutes after they were approved by the Commission could be sent out to the Neighborhood Watch Captains or they could be directed to the city's website to obtain the information.

Commissioner Taylor reported suspicious activity had increased in her neighborhood and questioned if the City had Drug Free Zone signage available.

Lieutenant Aguinaga stated Antioch Police Department only had Neighborhood Watch signage.

Commissioner Davis reported on his participation in National Night Out and thanked everyone who contributed to its success. He urged residents to install locking mailboxes and take precautions when having packages delivered.

Commissioner Thurston reported on his participation in National Night Out and the creation of a new Neighborhood Watch group. He announced he had met with the Principal of Deer Valley High School regarding outreach to high school students and they had distributed information at Back to School night events. He stated he had revitalized a Neighborhood Watch group for Badger Pass Way and introduced their new Block Captain. He gave a report on his participation in the Citizen's Police Academy and encouraged everyone to sign up and participate in the next event.

Chief Cantando reported information for the next Citizen's Police Academy would be available in January.

Commissioner Solorio reported on his attendance at National Night Out, Neighborhood Watch meetings, Deer Valley High School Back to School Night and City Council meetings. He encouraged residents to attend and/or watch City Council meetings.

Commissioner Thurston encouraged everyone with concerns bring them to the Police Crime Prevention and City Council.

b. Staff

Coordinator Ho gave a report on his participation in the Citizen's Police Academy and encouraged Commissioners and Block Captains to participate in the next Academy. He noted he would send applications for the next Academy to Block Captains when they became available.

Commissioner Thurston added the Academy gave him a new appreciation for the Antioch Police Department and an understanding as to why hiring new officers took so long.

Chief Cantando gave the following crime statistics for the period of January – August 2015:

- Violent crime was down 11.5%
- Property crime was down 12.4%
- Total arrests were up 19.9%
- Response times dropped from 10 minutes 36 seconds to 10 minutes
- Staffing was at 89 police officers
- 26 officers had been hired since mid 2013
- 4 officers were currently in the Field Training Program
- The East Bay Regional Communication System should be operational by the end of November

He explained crime statistics were in comparison to last year's numbers for the same time period and attributed the positive report to Neighborhood Watch and proactive sweeps. He reported an officer was put through the academy, finished top defensive tactics and quit within 3 weeks indicating police work was not for him. Addressing information posted on social media, he clarified there were 5 homicides; however, 1 was a justifiable homicide that did not need to be reported in the Uniformed Crime Reporting numbers. Additionally he noted the City Clerk reported an illegal dumping incident and Antioch Police Department responded within 6 minutes; however, the reporting party had left. He stated Antioch Police Department was still pursuing the case and the City Clerk would need to identify the responsible party. Speaking to an issue where an Officer showed up at an incorrect address, he noted at the time there was a missing special needs child that dispatch was attempting to address. He noted comments were

also made regarding the rudeness of dispatch. He encouraged anyone who felt dispatch had been rude should file a complaint as every call was recorded and would be investigated. He stated the last complaint involved a gentleman reporting he had been a victim of domestic violence and he claimed dispatch had laughed at him. He stated he investigated and played the tape for the man that proved the complaint was unfounded. He stated when rudeness occurred it was dealt with internally. He commented that during the recent hostage situation, news media was calling to talk to the suspect, which complicated the matter. He noted many things happened that made police work more difficult and social media was one of them. He encouraged residents to attend the next Citizen's Police Academy, Coffee with the Cops and Pizza with the Police. He suggested Neighborhood Watch groups to promote these events.

In response to Chairperson Gadams, Chief Cantando reported Antioch Police Department was budgeted for 102 officers.

Lieutenant Aguinaga reported the traffic officer had issued 222 traffic citations and responded to 20 accidents in 5½ months.

Chairperson Gadams reported he had received positive feedback with regards to traffic patrols in the City.

Chief Cantando reported Antioch was the only City in the area with decreasing crime numbers and they had the most AB109 returnees in the County with 84, which was 21% of the total.

Chairperson Gadams thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reported on his attendance at National Night Out. He announced he had met with Superintendent of School Gill and discussed the possibility of working collaborative on a Crime Prevention video or presentation for school children. He noted Mr. Gill suggested using the media students to assist in the development of a video. He proposed forming a committee to begin pursuing the Business Watch program.

On motion by Commissioner Thurston, seconded by Commissioner Taylor the Police Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved formation of a committee for the Business Watch Program

Chairperson Gadams reported the next Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting would be a presentation on how to effectively report a crime and the November meeting would include a presentation from dispatch.

Coordinator Ho stated he would email Chairperson Gadams brochures for the Business Watch Program and suggested approaching the Chamber of Commerce to get assistance with printing and distributing the brochures.

A speaker expressed concern regarding unsafe conditions and illegal activity occurring at Gentrytown Park and requested the Antioch Police Department conduct security checks at night.

Chief Cantando stated dealing with the curfew issues was relatively easy and Lieutenant Aguinaga was taking notes to address this issue. He thanked the speaker for reporting the problem. He explained when homeless establish residency in parks there were extra steps that needed to be taken and they partnered with Code Enforcement to address the issue.

Lieutenant Aguinaga reported the Antioch Police Department was required to give the homeless 30 days notice and store their items.

A speaker also reported illegal dumping had also occurred in the area.

Chief Cantando responded Antioch Police Department would perform walkthroughs at Gentrytown Park.

Commissioner Davis suggested the speakers approach City Council and request a gate be installed at Gentrytown Park.

In response to a speaker, Chief Cantando stated Code Enforcement staffing was increasing with Measure C monies.

A speaker reported a solicitor came to her door indicating he was a student working his way to get into College, however; when she asked for his permit to solicit and identification he was unable to provide the information. She also reported on an incident of public urination that occurred on "A" Street.

Chief Cantando explained the District Attorney would not prosecute for public urination because for indecent exposure there had to be intent; however, there are often other charges that could be filed. He further noted these types of calls were not a waste of time as it was function of the police department to prioritize calls for service.

In response to Steve Huddleston, Chief Cantando reported on his way to National Night Out someone made an illegal maneuver and he conducted a traffic stop for the violations. He commented a Councilmember reported she was at two different locations and witnessed violations; however, officers had not pursued the responsible vehicles. He explained calls for service took precedent over a traffic stops and Antioch Police Department on-view was up 40% compared to last year.

A speaker reported on the success of the National Night Out and recognized City officials who attended the event. She noted there was a person in her neighborhood on a bicycle breaking into vehicles and going through mailboxes. She discussed the importance of installing locking mailboxes.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Chief Cantando and Lieutenant Aguinaga for attending this evening.

Janie Yuds explained that when she provided details of Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting to Neighborhood Watch participants; they felt they did not need to participate. She noted she now puts members who do not attend three consecutive meetings on an inactive list and they only receive meeting announcements and important alerts. She further noted more people attended the monthly meetings now.

Chairperson Gadams thanked Laura Padraza for her report and Commissioner Solorio for the presentation.

8. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- October 3, 2015 – Neighborhood Cleanup – Village East Park, Pear and Cherry Streets
- October 19, 2015 – Police Crime Prevention Commission Meeting

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Absent: Commissioner Williams, Parham

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 19, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.