

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California
October 15, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Thurston called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M., on October 15, 2018 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners White, Eubanks, LaPoint, Goodson, and Chairperson Thurston

Absent: Commissioner Price

Staff: Lieutenant, Tarra Mendes
Chief, Tammany Brooks
Detective Brian Rose
Detective James Colley
Coordinator, Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

3. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Thurston welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced staff. He discussed the manner in which the meeting would be conducted. He announced the City Department phone listing and the Police Crime Prevention Commission Mission Statement were available in the Community Room this evening. He encouraged residents to provide the Commission with their suggestions for future meeting presentations. He announced District Attorney Becton would be giving a presentation to the Commission at the January 23, 2019 Police Crime Prevention Commission meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 17, 2018)

On motion by Commissioner Goodson, seconded by Commissioner White the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of September 17, 2018 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners White, Eubanks, LaPoint, Goodson and Chairperson Thurston

Absent: Commissioner Price

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathryn Fitzpatrick, Antioch resident, reported that she had recently been the victim of an attempted identity theft by someone who had placed a vacation hold on her mail. She stated she subsequently received correspondence from credit card companies requesting additional information before they would open an account; however, Overstock had issued a credit card in the amount of \$10,000. She urged residents to inform their Neighborhood Watch groups of this issue.

Chairperson Thurston thanked Ms. Fitzpatrick for informing the community of the illegal activity and encouraged anyone missing mail to inform the Post Office.

Sandra Kelly added that this activity was occurring at various locations downtown.

A resident reported that there was a business in the Santa Clara Valley that had educated people on how to avoid identity theft.

A resident reported she had heard of a scam regarding someone identifying themselves as Amazon seeking additional personal information.

Chairperson Thurston cautioned residents to be aware and check the URL of the websites to make sure they were legitimate.

6. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

“SWAT” by APD SWAT team members

Detectives Brian Rose and James Colley gave their professional backgrounds with the Antioch Police Department and a PowerPoint Presentation on “SWAT” which included the following information:

- SWAT began in the 1960s to address well-armed individuals and groups who were willing to engage in confrontations with the police and a traditional response would place police and bystanders at risk
- LAPD was one of the first agencies in the nation to create a functioning SWAT team
- Other law enforcement agencies began to create SWAT teams using the LAPD model
- A special weapons and tactics team was a designated group of law enforcement officers who were selected, trained, and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that were so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or the investigative units
- Primary characteristic that distinguished SWAT from the other units was that they were focused on tactical solutions as opposed to other functions
- Purpose of SWAT was to increase the likelihood of safety while resolving critical incidents

- California Penal Code Section 13514.1 provided guidelines and standardizations for training
- Law enforcement evolved from uniformed officers handling any and all situations
- The SWAT team trained twice a month
- The SWAT team was utilized for high risk apprehensions, search warrant service, hostage, rescue, barricaded subjects, dignitary protection and enforcement in areas known for violent crime
- The SWAT team consisted of a Commander, Team Leader, Assistant Team Leader, Entry Team Members, Containment Team Members, Sniper Surveillance Team, Armored Rescue Vehicle Operator, Tactical Medic, Negotiations Team and Tactical Dispatch
- Detective Colley and Rose were Operators
- Detective Rose was trained to be a breacher and Detective Colley was a grenadier who deployed gas or less lethal munitions, when necessary
- Detective Colley and Rose had dual roles as they take an active role during the incident and then dressed down to interview those arrested

A speaker applauded the SWAT team for addressing an issue in her neighborhood which had made the area much safer.

Chairperson Thurston stated that they were impressed with the SWAT team and discussed the importance of their presence in the community. He questioned how the SWAT team was engaged.

Detective Colley explained that some of their biggest roles were organized search warrants and take downs of subjects and they were given a few days' notice that there was a location with a wanted subject, and an operations plan was developed. He noted a couple of years ago there was an incident in which a hostage was taken and they were told to immediately gear up to deploy out to the site.

A speaker mentioned that the public could remain anonymous when reporting criminal activity to the Antioch Police Department.

In response to Commissioner Goodson, Detective Rose stated that they averaged approximately one operation every 1 to 1-1/2 months. He noted their most recent operation was assisting Oakland who had a warrant for a subject in relation to a homicide and gang activity. He further noted that they had conducted simultaneous warrant hits with a number of different agencies assisting and their objective was to hit several locations throughout the bay area at the same time so that no one could be warned of the operation. He explained that often times a lot of their operations were contain and call out because going in was their last resort. He reported that they had a lot of tools at their disposal to prevent them from having to go in and risking injury and he thanked the administration for providing them with those tools.

In response to a speaker, Detective Rose stated that they have had a canine respond and take a perimeter spot; however, there was not a SWAT specific canine.

Chairperson Thurston commented that organizing, deploying and setting up a perimeter was intimidating to a subject.

Detective Rose agreed that a majority of the time, just the presence of the SWAT team worked to detain a subject.

In response to Commissioner Eubanks, Detective Colley explained that the SWAT vehicle was a recycled military vehicle.

Chairperson Thurston reported that everyone participating in the Antioch Police Department Citizens' Academy had the opportunity to climb into the armored vehicle. He thanked Detectives Rose and Colley for their service and for the presentation this evening.

Chief Brooks commented that the SWAT team was very expensive because officers were very well trained. He noted that going into a residence was the SWAT teams last resort because they did not know how many weapons and ammunition the subject possessed. He explained that the Antioch Police Department conducted a threat assessment which included, who was being sought, what they did, their background, as well as their propensity for violence toward other people and law enforcement. He added that preplanned events were required to be approved by him. He commented that agencies the size of Antioch typically did not have a SWAT team because of the expense; therefore, those agencies went with a regional approach. He noted that he believed it was beneficial for him to know the quality of people on their SWAT team. He announced that members of the Antioch Police Department SWAT team competed in a fundraising competition and came in first place in physical fitness and tactics. He explained that if an incident occurs that rises to a level where they want additional training and tactics, they create a mini team out of the patrol officers who were SWAT team members and executed a plan utilizing their additional training and expertise to resolve the situation safely.

Chief Brooks encouraged residents to attend Pizza with the Police.

Measure W Informational Presentation

Chief Brooks clarified that this item was informational only and he was not advocating supporting or endorsing Measure W. He gave an informational PowerPoint presentation of a Community Update - Measure W Voter Information, which included the following:

- Council's action to place Measure W on the November 6th Ballot
- Official Measure W Ballot Language
- Additional services Measure W seeks to address

- Why the Measure was being placed on the ballot at this time
- Priorities to be addressed by Measure W
- Affirming that Measure W would continue to address public safety
- Measure W Local Control and Cost
- Measure W Financial Protections
- Voter Information

Chief Brooks announced that a copy of the presentation and additional information was available on the city's website at antiochca.gov. He encouraged residents to educate themselves on the candidates and measures and vote in the November election.

In response to the public, Chief Brooks explained that Measure C expires in April 2021 and Measure W, if passed, would have a sunset of 20 years.

A speaker stated various individual had expressed their frustration with regards to Measure W increasing sales tax when the Antioch Police Department was not fully staffed.

Chief Brooks responded that he understood the frustration of residents; however, some who had indicated that they would shop in surrounding cities if the Measure passed, were not aware of the sales tax rate in those communities. He reported that the highest sales tax in Contra Costa County was 9.75%. He explained that Measure C raised Antioch's sales tax to 9%; however, currently Antioch's sales tax rate was 8.75% because .25% had expired. He stated if Measure W passed, he would encourage everyone interested to be part of the budgetary process. He noted it would be up to Council to decide where the money should be spent.

Commissioner White stated she had been approached and asked what had happened to the money raised from Measure C.

Chief Brooks explained that 104 Antioch Police Officers were authorized and currently there were 98. He commented that an entry level police officer hired today, would attend the academy in November and he could only increase his number when that individual graduated the academy in May. He reported currently he had one person graduating the academy in November, two graduating in January and two entering the academy in November, which would put the City at 103 officers. Additionally, he noted that there was one entry level candidate who had a test to pass before he could attend the academy in November, which would then put the City at 104 officers. He stated he could not offer anyone else a job but those in process did not count as sworn officers. He reported that there were two officers leaving by the end of the year and they were working to insure the delay in them leaving and bringing on the next people was reduced. He noted that he had enough people in the recruitment pipeline to get to 108 officers, in anticipation for some officers leaving. He explained that since November 2013, when Measure C was approved, they had hired 58 officers; however, 42 had left for a variety of reasons.

In response to a speaker, Chief Brooks explained that a lateral officer was an individual who came to work in Antioch from another agency in California. He noted the benefit of a lateral officer was that they did not need to attend the police academy and the field training program was reduced from 16-20 weeks to 6-8 weeks. He stated in less than two months a lateral officer would most likely be patrolling City streets in a solo officer capacity.

Chairperson Thurston reported that Lieutenant Mendes had previously described the Antioch Police Department application process.

Chief Brooks added it was difficult to get a quality applicant because he had the highest hiring standards. He noted hiring officers with issues was costly and damaged the city's reputation, and citizens' deserved better than that. He commented that applicants were required to go on a ride-along and have an interview with him. He reported that he informed them of how hard they would have to work and that they would do it professionally, ethically, and morally, and be involved in community engagement.

In response to a speaker, Chief Brooks reported that some of the lateral officers that had been hired, came from Stockton, San Jose, Oakland, Pleasant Hill, Martinez, BART, Walnut Creek, Marin County and Kern County.

In response to a speaker, Chief Brooks stated that some Antioch Police Officers lived in Antioch; however, for a variety of reasons many choose live in another community and work in Antioch. He reported that they are engaging with the youth in the community to get interest in law enforcement so they could grow their own. He noted that some Antioch Police Officers began as Police Explorers. He thanked the audience for listening and encouraged residents to vote.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

Business Watch Implementation – Report by Chairperson Thurston

The following list of Business Watch locations were divided among Commissioners:

1. Genrytown & Buchanon
2. Orchard Square -
3. Somersville Town Center Mall
4. Umpqua Bank
5. Downtown Merchants
6. Antioch Marina
7. Blue Rock Merchants
8. E.10th St & L St Merchants
9. Antioch Grocery Outlet
10. L St and Sycamore
11. West Tregallas Rd Lone Tree Way

12. 1700 Cavallo Road Rocketship Delta Prep
13. Worrell Road/Antioch Family Church

Coordinator Ho requested a copy of the Business Watch assignments be emailed to him.

Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee – Report by Commissioner White

Commissioner White announced the next Neighborhood Watch Best Practices Committee meeting would be held on November 10, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. in the Police Department Community Room. She noted she would be sending an email reminder and encouraged anyone wanting to attend to provide their email address and RSVP.

Chairperson Thurston encouraged Neighborhood Watch participants to attend noting that the Commission improved their input.

Division of Block Captains by Commissioner – Report by Commissioner Goodson

Commissioner Goodson reported that the Division of Block Captains was almost complete and he would forward the information to Coordinator Ho when it was finalized.

Internet Technology Improvements – Report by Commissioner Eubanks

Commissioner Eubanks reported that he had populated events into the google master calendar for the Commission and posted documents in the shared folder. In response to Chairperson Thurston, he stated that he would re-send access information to the Commissioners.

Coordinator Ho mentioned that he would meet with Commission Eubanks and review the information provided and add Antioch Police Department approved documents to the shared folder.

Commissioner Eubanks encouraged residents to join the Antioch Police Department's facebook page.

Youth Basketball – Report by Commissioner Eubanks

Commissioner Eubanks reported that the Antioch Police Department did not have the resources available to sponsor a youth basketball tournament at this time, so he would be continuing this effort as a private citizen and in conjunction with the stakeholders and Parks and Recreation Commission. He reported the Contra Loma Estates tennis court was being converted to a basketball court, which could become a core area for the tournament. He requested this item be eliminated from Old Business.

Sandra Kelly reported the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was 7:00 P.M. on October 18, 2018 in Council Chambers.

Security Camera Registration – Report by Commissioner Eubanks

Commissioner Eubanks reported he had met with Lieutenant Bittner who had offered to make a presentation to the Commission in November on the Security Camera Registration program. He noted flyers of the program were available in the Community Room this evening and he encouraged everyone, with security cameras, to participate.

A speaker commented that she believed the Antioch Police Department could not use camera evidence if the subject was not informed.

Lieutenant Mendes responded that that information was incorrect.

A resident reported that the Antioch Police Department had utilized her security camera footage in a murder case.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Thurston reported that he had worked with Coordinator Ho to develop a Business Watch webpage and he would agendize this item, as Old Business, for discussion at the next meeting.

9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Commission

Commissioner White reminded Neighborhood Watch groups that the Best Practices Committee meeting would be held at 10:00 A.M. on November 10, 2018 and would include a discussion on safety during the holidays. She reminded residents that people knocked on doors to determine if a house was vacant during the holidays and she encouraged residents to prepare and secure their homes.

Chairperson Thurston encouraged residents to secure holiday decorations and keep their properties well lit.

Staff

Lieutenant Mendes announced the Antioch Police Department was hosting a Trick or Treat event from 3:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. on October 31, 2018 at the Antioch Police Department. She noted anyone wishing to donate candy for the event could do so by dropping it off at the Antioch Police Department lobby prior to the event. She reported last year's event was very successful.

Chairperson Thurston announced the following meeting/presentation/event schedule.

10. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- November 1, 2018 – Neighborhood Clean Up – Carmen Dragon Elementary School
- November 19, 2018 – Crime Prevention Commission meeting

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

A speaker questioned how the Business Watch locations were selected.

Chairperson Thurston responded that he had either been contacted by businesses who had expressed interest or they were selected by the Commission. He noted the Business Watch program built community among the businesses, which built interest in safety in the community.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Commissioners White, Eubanks, LaPoint, Goodson and Chairperson Thurston
Absent: Commissioner Price

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 19, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.