

**ANTIOCH CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Antioch, California
October 21, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairperson Cook called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M., on October 21, 2013 in the Antioch Police Department Community Room.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Hayes, Augusta, Gadams and Vice Chairperson Cook

Staff: Acting Captain, Robin Kelley
Coordinator Hans Ho
Minutes Clerk, Kitty Eiden

Acting Captain Kelley reported two Commissioners had resigned and the positions would be filled pending City Council action on October 22, 2013.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 16, 2013)

On motion by Commissioner Gadams, seconded by Commissioner Augusta the Crime Prevention Commission members present unanimously approved the minutes of September 16, 2013 as presented. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Hayes, Augusta, Gadams and Vice Chairperson Cook

Commissioner Hayes reviewed the speaker rules for anyone wishing to make public comments.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Davidson, Antioch resident, requested a follow up regarding his request for information related to a police raid that occurred in his neighborhood.

Acting Captain Kelley responded that she did not have the information at this time and suggested Mr. Davidson discuss this issue with her after the meeting.

Douglas Dunn, Antioch resident, reported he had participated in a Contra Costa County workgroup advocating for the mentally ill and anyone wishing to receive additional information could contact him after the meeting.

Laquetta Franz, Antioch resident, stated there were several residents in her neighborhood who would like to get information on security cameras and she welcomed input on this item.

Brad Arendtson, Antioch resident, expressed concern regarding the lack of supervision at a group home in his neighborhood which had resulted in loitering and illegal activity, negatively impacting residents in the area. He also reported reckless driving in his court. He spoke to the need for more police presence in his neighborhood to eliminate these behaviors.

Commissioner Cook responded that the presentation this evening regarding "Problem Houses" may be helpful in addressing Mr. Arendtson's concerns related to the group home. He reported that reckless driving had been reported in many areas of the City and with current staffing levels, it was not possible for the Antioch Police Department to conduct routine safety checks. He encouraged Mr. Arendtson to discuss this matter with him after the meeting.

Acting Captain Kelley encouraged Mr. Arendtson to report safety issues to the Antioch Police Department.

Brad Arendtson commented that he had reported a break in six months ago and the Antioch Police Department did not respond until a week later.

Acting Captain Kelly responded that if Mr. Arendtson would provide her with the details of that report, she would research the call to determine what had occurred.

Bart Miller, Antioch resident, reported the City of Hayward created a no cost database for residents and business owners to provide the locations of their video camera. He noted this information allowed them to capture evidence needed to solve crimes.

Acting Captain Kelley thanked Mr. Miller for the information.

Richard Asadourian, Antioch resident, stated he had reported a large party to the Antioch Police Department and the issue was immediately addressed. He noted their neighborhood had been discussing the possibility of hiring a security company and requested other neighborhoods who had hired security, contact him with information. He questioned if the candidates for the Police Crime Prevention Commission could be introduced this evening.

Coordinator Ho explained that until the appointments to the Commission were confirmed by the City Council, they could not provide that information.

Patricia Britton, Antioch resident, expressed concern regarding code enforcement violations in her neighborhood and questioned if new residents were provided with a copy of the City's municipal codes.

Acting Captain Kelley reported that due to the current staffing levels, Code Enforcement was only responding to emergencies. She added that abandoned vehicles could be reported to the Abandon Auto Hotline and the Antioch's Municipal Code could be accessed through the City's website.

Commissioner Cook suggested Ms. Britton attend the City Council meeting to voice her ideas and concerns.

Michael Kean, Antioch resident, stated he was seeking advice on how to address problem neighbors when other neighbors feared there would be retribution.

Commissioner Cook responded that the presentation this evening regarding "Problem Houses" would assist Mr. Kean.

Peter Lozano, Antioch resident, questioned what the police power would be for a private security team.

Acting Captain Kelley responded that private security companies could detain someone for the Police Department and they also served as a deterrent to criminal activity.

5. COMMISSION / STAFF REPORTS

a. Neighborhood Watch to give a presentation on: "Problem Houses: What can we do about them?"

Hans Ho introduced Lori Cook and Nancy Kelly to make the presentation. He commented that the information given was not legal advice and opinions expressed were not that of the Police Crime Prevention Commission or Antioch Police Department.

Lori Cook and Nancy Kelly gave a brief overhead presentation that included photos of problem properties and the following information:

- The owner of record of the property was responsible for maintaining the property
- Owner information can be obtained from the County Assessor's Office (925-313-7400)
- While working with neighbors to address a problem property, small groups are more beneficial
- Notify the property owner of the adverse condition and explain their responsibility
- Small Claims Court action could be taken with up to \$10,000 per adult in the affected neighborhood
- Never enter the problem property
- Take photos, preferably with a friend
- Never mention Neighborhood Watch, City of Antioch or the Antioch Police Department when contacting the property owner
- If possible reference parcel number and code violations
- Send letters to property owners by certified mail

Ms. Cook stated more detailed information was available at *Cleaning up Antioch One Home at a Time*, facebook page and anyone not on facebook, could receive additional information by contacting them by phone or email.

A speaker expressed concern for the fear of retribution from the tenants.

Commission Cook offered to discuss this issue with the speaker after the meeting.

A speaker reported if neighbors worked together to address an ongoing problem, the Antioch Police Department would provide protection and it would be worth it to resolve the issues.

A speaker announced his wife had started a facebook page; *Antioch Lets Fix It*, to address problem properties. He commented that there was a postal worker that had been reporting issues to their Neighborhood Watch group.

A speaker expressed concern for boats parked on the street for an extended period of time.

Acting Captain Kelley suggested the speaker report the problem to the Abandoned Auto Hotline.

A speaker expressed concern regarding illegal dumping that had occurred in her neighborhood.

Ms. Kelly encouraged the speaker to report illegal dumping to Republic Waste Services (925-685-4711).

In response to a speaker, Acting Captain Kelley stated squatters should be reported to the Antioch Police Department.

A speaker was cautioned to anonymously report ongoing issues in her neighborhood to the property owner and report abandoned autos to the Abandoned Auto Hotline at (925-779-6981).

Acting Captain Kelley announced information regarding the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) programs, was available on the City's website.

Nancy Kelly reported the individual who had purchased a care home on Cavallo Road requested help in cleaning up the area. She encouraged anyone wishing to donate time to assist in this effort to contact her after the meeting.

b. NNO slide Show

The slide show was presented on the screens in the Police Department community room throughout the meeting.

6. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS (Announcements and Correspondence)

a. Commission

Commissioner Gadams thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening and suggested anyone with experience in surveillance cameras, contact the public speaker who had requested that information. He reported banks had been working to clean up problem properties to prevent them from being marked as dumping grounds and he encouraged residents to be vigilant and report problems before they become bigger issues. He noted case law allowed a property owner to be sued by a neighbor if it could be proven the issue affected their home value. Lastly, he requested anyone taking photos of problem properties, remain on public property and date stamp photos. He reported on his attendance at Neighborhood Watch meetings and encouraged everyone to participate.

Commissioner Augusta stated he had recently worked with one of the oldest developments in Antioch and the residents of the area felt that the City had ignored them. He noted he had advised those residents to go to City Council and Crime Prevention Commission meetings as well as write letters voicing their concerns.

Commissioner Cook encouraged residents dealing with problem properties take the initiative to send their own letters. He stressed the importance of keeping groups small and not getting personal when addressing the issues. He encouraged residents to be vigilante this holiday season, stay off cell phones, be aware of people sitting in cars and call in suspicious activity. He reported on his attendance at Neighborhood Watch meetings. He suggested residents with traffic concerns, bring those issues to the attention of the City Council at their meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M., in Council Chambers.

b. Staff

Acting Captain Kelley reported National Night Out was very successful and she expressed her appreciation to everyone who participated.

Coordinator Ho announced the City Council would be considering appointments to the Police Crime Prevention Commission at their October 22, 2013 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A speaker expressed concern regarding line of sight issues for people attempting to turn onto Delta Fair Blvd. near Turner Elementary School. She also expressed concern regarding a person on Delta Fair Blvd. who had made obscene gestures at passing motorist.

Vice Chairperson Cook suggested the speaker voice her traffic concerns to the City Council.

Acting Captain Kelley stated if anyone feels a Police Officer needed to check on the welfare of a person impeding traffic, the issue should be reported to the Antioch Police Department.

In response to a speaker, Coordinator Ho stated he would provide information for the grocery cart retrieval service via email.

In response to Commissioner Gadams, Acting Captain Kelley reported on current staffing levels for the Antioch Police Department and the potential impact Measure C funds could have on staffing. She noted the City had been hiring Officers as fast as possible and four Officers who had just come out of the academy, would be in the field training program for 18-20 weeks.

Acting Captain Kelley encouraged those calling into dispatch get the dispatchers name and time of the call for service.

In response to a speaker, Acting Captain Kelley stated a call for service for a 5150 would be given a priority, based on the situation.

In response to a speaker, Acting Captain Kelley agreed call logs would be helpful when documenting calls for service.

Vice Chairperson Cook suggested logging calls for service in ink because the courts would recognize ink as a legal document.

Linda Dunn, Antioch resident, thanked the community for their support. She reported they were advocating for the mentally ill and next year they would be offering classes through the National Alliance on Mental Illness and Sutter Delta Hospital.

Vice Chairperson Cook announced the *Protect Your Identity* and *Let's Talk Assemblyman Frazier* pamphlets were available in the community room this evening.

7. FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / EVENTS

- a. November 18, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. – Next Crime Prevention Commission Meeting, Antioch Police Department
- b. November 2, 2013 from 9:00 - 11:00 A.M. – Next Neighborhood Clean Up/Gentrytown Park

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Commissioners Hayes, Augusta, Gadams and Vice Chairperson Cook

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM to the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 18, 2013 at 7:00 P.M.