

**ANTIOCH POLICE
CRIME PREVENTION COMMISSION
December 17, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

**Police Department Community Room
300 L Street
Antioch, CA 94509**

MINUTES

Agenda Item #1- Call to Order

The Antioch Crime Prevention Commission meeting was held on December 17th, 2007 and called to order in the Police Department Community Room.

Agenda Item #2 – Roll Call

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m., with roll call as follows:

Present: Chair Ho, Vice Chair Koch, Commission Members: Zuniga, Hayes, And
Arellano

Absent: Commissioner Vasquez

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Minutes (November 19, 2007)

Commissioner Hayes made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Arellano seconded the motion.

Vote: Aye – Vice Chair Koch, Commissioner Zuniga, Hayes, Arellano

Nay – None

Abstain – Chair Ho – due to absence at the November meeting

Agenda Item #4- Public Comments – Forum for Public Comment of Items not on The Regular Agenda (3-Minutes Time Limit per Person)

Veronica McMath- She lives on Buckskin Dr and has a group home for juvenile males in her neighborhood. She requested to know if they were required to give advance notification to the neighborhood or police department. Lt. Marchoke informed her that the group homes are state regulated and the local authorities (police) have no input nor are they required to be notified in advance.

Agenda Item #5 – Commission/Staff Reports:

Commissioner Zuniga gave a brief presentation regarding how to deal with problem neighbors including the issue of group homes. He stated that the most important thing neighbors can do is document each incident. Notes, video, or photos will help immensely. If you take photos or video do it discretely and from a distance. Take to your neighbors to see if they have had problems with them and have them take notes. Also call the police as warranted, each call creates a call for service which enables the police to track problems and in the case of group homes they can present the history of calls for service to the agency overseeing them to try to get them to work with the home to modify the behavior.

Keep in contact with your neighbors and if you call the police it creates a record and as a group you and your neighbors can get together as a group and sue a particular home for a nuisance home under the civil code. You can do it via small claims court and each home can be awarded up to 7,500 dollars by a judge. So for example, if you have ten homes taking it to court and each home is awarded \$7,500 that could be 75,000 dollars that could be awarded and for the home to pay that it could force them to sell, or put a lean on the home. Most times the home must sell to make the payment.

Commissioner Hayes stated: "...Make sure they understand that you are not going to tolerate that behavior in your neighborhood. You should make it intolerable for the criminals, and don't let them intimidate you."

Commissioner Zuniga stated: "Because, it's our community. We're the ones who have invested into the community. To live here, to raise our kids, to retire....we shouldn't let the undesirables run us out of here. Let's move them out, and we do it through the legal process."

Agenda Item #6 - Neighborhood Watch Program Report

a. End of Year Summary

There is a correction on the Monthly report- 16 phone calls, year to date total 162 phone calls.

Chair Ho gave an end of year synopsis.

The commission began the year with a full board of seven members. By the summer the commission was down to four. Now at the end of the year the commission has two new commissioners. He welcomed Commissioner Hayes and Commissioner Arellano. His hope is to keep the commission member numbers stable.

There were 66 meetings in 2007 which is 73.68% up over 2006. There were 870 man hours which is up 35.30 % over 2006. He stated that the commissioners were dedicated and worked hard and gives a note of thanks.

There was some sad news during 2007. Former commissioners Bob Miller and John Kelley both passed away in 2007.

One of the goals at the start of 2007 was to revitalize neighborhood watch groups. Over 50% of the neighborhood watch meetings in 2007 were revitalization meetings with existing groups. The other 50 % were new groups. We have successes in beats 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. We are beginning to see some successes in Beat 1. West Rivertown Apartments will have their second meeting and become established as a neighborhood watch group in Beat 1. Crestview Pines is also interested in starting a group. Delta Pines Apartments was organized early in the year and Bayview Apartments has also had their first meeting.

The second goal was publicity for neighborhood watch. We saw two successful articles. One was in the Antioch Press and one was in the Contra Costa Times.

Recruitment in Beat 1 is not as successful as he hoped, but there has been some progress made.

Chair Ho then thanked Lt. Marchoke, CSO Alcantara, Chief Hyde and all of the block captains for their commitments to their neighborhood and willingness to share information. He also thanked three people for communications. Jeanne Bonner in Beat 4, who is wonderful at spreading the word to beat 4 block captains. Shelly Daley also was great at spreading news in both Beats 5 and 6 and Susie Brown who was helpful at spreading the word in Beat 5. (Due to injuries in her wrist which limits her typing Shelley Daley has taken over her Beat 5.)

Agenda Item #7-Commission Communications/ Announcements/Correspondence

a. Commission

1. Vice Chair Koch wished every one a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

2. Commissioner Hayes indicated that today she was able to ride along with Officer Adriane Gonzalez for the ride with the cop. "It was really insightful and eye opening to see the day to day operation, and observe some of the challenges and (**note: text deleted**) hazards that they confront on a daily basis. ...We responded to a copper theft on 18th Ave....There was a surveillance camera that captured some pretty good pictures...We went to another call on Ashley way where there was a suspect sitting in a brown Chevy truck for about half an hour. Someone in the neighborhood called. ...It so happened that this guy appeared to be high, so Officer Gonzalez searched him...and ended up arresting him...then brought him back and had him tested for drugs. "

She also mentioned that while she was watching the city council meeting on December 11th, and there was a public comment by Douglas [Totes]. He was concerned about the lack of information from the police department and the newspapers regarding the physical description of people who are committing violent crimes in Antioch. He said ‘The public really wants to know who and what to look out for, because how do we protect ourselves if we don’t know what to look for.’ Commissioner Hayes further indicated that maybe we can do a better job of communicating descriptions of the type of people who are being apprehended or caught **(note: text deleted)** so people in the city would know what to look out for. **(note: last part of this sentence was deleted)**

Lt. Marchoke then made a response to that, “That is a decision on the part of the newspaper not to publish that information...They may not publish the names of suspects and that is their choice. If we are putting out Bolos (be on the look out) we are going to put age, race, male, female, and any other characteristics, because...people need to know who we are looking for.”

3. Commissioner Zuniga stated that the website has good information, and the Chief has been great, when there is a serious crime he will send the release to us and we can get it out to the block captains. – The Beat Alert Notification system was mentioned briefly.
4. Commissioner Arellano also stated that she had gone on a ride along. She got a better insight about what the police are doing in Antioch. She went during the evening on a Sunday but there was not one down minute for the entire time. They go from call to call. The equipment allows them to see what has taken place at that address on route to the call and where there back up is. They deserve a lot of credit for all they do. She road with Officer Tom Lenderman, and he took her down a street where there were gangs.

b. Staff

5. Lt. Marchoke stated that the commission right now is the best he has had an opportunity to work with because they are here for the goal of neighborhood watch. Coffee with the Cops December 29th at 5779 Lone Tree Way Starbucks, 9am -11am. He also stated Commissioner Hayes experience will help us grow. He also stated that the Chief of Police is a big supporter of neighborhood watch. He also stated that the block captains and citizens are banding together well now. We have never had this many people come to the commission meetings before.
6. We were very fortunate to have Chair Ho take over the Commission and he thanked him for his work.

c. **Future commission meetings** – Chair Ho proposed the commission change the January meeting to January 23rd a Wednesday and the February meeting on the 20th also a Wednesday, due to the holidays.

7. Commissioner Hayes requested that the Coffee with the Cops is also placed on the future Commission meeting agendas.

- Dick Straub- Block Captain asked for suggestions on a better way to contact neighbors when something happens that the telephone. The consensus was use walkie talkies, or to update the phone tree procedure, to go door to door and hand out flyers, or to use a signal light in the windows.

Agenda Item #7 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned after Chair Ho made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Hayes seconded it.

Respectfully submitted,
CSO Alcantara