

North Hills Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council
(NH NCPC)

Wednesday, August 1, 2007

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Highlands Country Club, 110 Hiller Drive, Oakland, CA

MINUTES by Steve Reinlib (please send any corrections to Reinlib@aol.com)

- 1. Welcome (Jim Dexter)** Welcomed & explained that we are Oakland Police Beat 13Y of the 57 beats. **(Five Minutes)**
- 2. Introduction** Present members were introduced by Jim Dexter **(Five Minutes)**
NH NCPC Interim Steering Committee:
Nancy Mueller, Chair (ON VACATION and unable to attend this meeting)
Jim Dexter, Vice Chair
Teresa Ferguson, Treasurer
Steve Reinlib, Acting Secretary
Oakland Police Department:
PSA2 Commander Lt. Meeks
PSO Officer Steve Mitchell
NSC Paul Brekke-Miesner (neighborhood services coordinator (works for Claudio Albano))
Guest Speakers:
Deputy Chief Jeff Israel, OPD – works directly under Chief Wayne Tucker
Lt. Jim Meeks, OPD
Sue Piper of Jean Quan’s office – She brought lots of forms on crime to hand out.
- 3. Announcements:** **(Twenty Minutes)**
 - A. Explanation of Door Prize (Teresa Ferguson)**
What is the Door Prize? – A large truck club was raffled off.
 - B. Submission of August 2007 NH NCPC Priorities to OPD (Jim Dexter)**
What are NCPC Priorities? – see the back of the agenda for our current priorities to the OPD.
August 2007 Priorities Submitted to OPD (Printed on Back of This Sheet)
PS2/PSO response – “...now that they know the priorities they can begin paying attention to them.”
 - C Clubs for Steering Wheels Available at Reduced Prices (Teresa Ferguson)**
Small (\$10 plus tax), Large (\$15 plus tax), if we order 25 or more of each then no shipping costs
NOTE: The prices above are reduced prices for members of organized community policing groups. Purchased individually they are in the \$30-40 range. There are 15 SUV clubs still available.
 - D. Importance of Reporting Crime (Jim Dexter)**
How to Report Crime Incidents – Use a “Citizen Crime Report” available on our website or on Jean Quan’s website.
OPD is data-driven – That is; “Always file a crime report, if you want attention to the crimes in your neighborhood.”
What are ‘Calls for Service’?
Crime map
Report Form
 - E. Call for Volunteers for NH NCPC 2008 Steering Committee (Jim Dexter)**
Election Slate to be announced in November 2007, with the election in February 2008.
Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster
Volunteer or nominate a good candidate at our next town hall meeting.
- 4. GUEST SPEAKERS:**
 - A. Community Policing in Oakland (Part One) (Deputy Chief Jeff Israel)** - see speaker’s remarks below **(Fifteen Minutes)**
 - B. Community Policing in Oakland (Part Two) (Lt. Jim Meeks)** - see speaker’s remarks below **(Fifteen Minutes)**
- 5. Open Forum: Nine Speakers (Jim Dexter)** **(Forty-Five Minutes)**
 - A. Introduction (Jim Dexter)**
 - B. Ground Rules (Jim Dexter)** – See the Questions and Answers Section Below
Name & Address of each speaker
Speakers limited to two minutes
Subsequent discussion limited to three minutes
 - C. Timekeeping (Jim Dexter)**
- 6. Closing Remarks (Teresa Ferguson)** **(Five Minutes)**
Next NH NCPC Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, November 7, 2007
Door Prize Drawing
Adjournment

Quarterly Public Meeting
Meeting Minutes of Guest Speakers
(NH NCPC)
Wednesday, August 1, 2007

A. Guest Speaker Deputy Chief Jeff Israel.

Chief Israel is on vacation but showed up for our meeting – a sign of his dedication to our organization.

The key is our calls. They don't show up if we don't tell them what's going on.

Always call the police because that gives them information on what to do.

For example – they are now providing Walking Officers due to some calls about burglaries in Montclair Village. They need our communication. Another example of police providing something extra was when Montclair fair coordinator, Helen, during the recent artist fair in the village asked for extra help for crime control then OPD did provide extra patrols. Learn how to stay in touch with the police. We, the residents, are here and know what is going on better than OPD and OPD needs to rely on us to help us.

Prevent Crime – have alarm signs on your home, use your home alarm when you go out. Lock your car! It's the community that prevents crime – not the OPD. Know your neighbors on both sides of your house, that way you look out for each other, - that's how you prevent crime. Crooks are not put off by the officers being present. Crooks commit crimes when they see people present and looking. Lately in Montclair a burglar has been hitting old ladies over the head and taking their stuff. Be aware! OPD is checking on banks to make sure their (this has been taken of) alarms and cameras work.

It is harder for crooks up here. Jeff's theory is that we call more often than other areas. But when we call, OPD does respond – they will come. Never think that calling does no good or that it is nothing. It does good, because the crooks are hiding in the neighborhood and when they see the police it scares them off because they know this is a neighborhood where people call the police. Always call and tell OPD what is going on. The crooks live here too. They aren't coming from East Oakland to rob in Montclair. This is the lowest crime area in the city. If we continue to be organized and call the police they will commit crimes in the neighborhoods where people don't call.

OPD arrests 50 to 100 people a day. OPD's focus is getting more patrol officers plus 40 new officers have been added in the last few months.

New Possible OPD Procedure and /or Structure:

Area Command – Geographic to accountability. A commander is strategically focused on a 24/7 basis to review a crime issue in a neighborhood. The focus would help them figure out what crimes need attention in our community.

Get our neighbors to come to these meetings.

B. Guest speaker Lt. Meeks

He is also on vacation and stayed three days (delaying his vacation) just to be here at our meeting. He did it because he is concerned about the community feeling safe.

If you get a car alarm, make sure it has a kill switch. Make sure your home alarm calls the police. Knowing your neighbors and making calls to OPD is the key. If we want police here then we need to complain. That is what has started OPD to start having a police presence. It does work. Be vigilante, come to meetings, tell your neighbors.

He has four crime reduction team officers plus two sergeants. He has ten beats three of which are the largest beats. These officers are restricted to their beats. He suggests we invite the D.A., Tom Rogers, to find out about them being overwhelmed and how fast they put folks back on the streets. Our Acting Beat Officer (and traffic cop) Jason Scott has been added to our area in case you have been noticing more tickets. This is primarily to help us avoid having our hills emergency road services access blocked.

Debbie Mack will be back As a PSO (problem solving officer) for beat 13Y. OPD offers residential inspections performed by NSC Paul Brekke-Miesner – Is your house burglar resistant – there is a brochure about the program – safety doors, locks, etc. And if you aren't sure if you should call the OPD, call the neighbor plus walk out on porch to see if there is a problem. All door knocking folks need a solicitation license. If they don't have one then call OPD and OPD loves to hear that they know or suspect then that there is a burglar in the neighborhood. Organize our community. Whatever we do to help our neighbors, helps us. It is important that we all work together. He would like our city to be a Safe City. Oakland PD is a very educated police force with the majority of the officers having Bachelor Degrees.

Quarterly Public Meeting
Meeting Minutes of Questions and Answers for Guest Speakers
(NH NCPC)
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS directed at the police officers

Q-Can I get more OPD presence in Stonewall?

A- They will look into it.

Q-Are lesser crimes not being prosecuted

A - Need to invite the D. A. office to find that out.

Q-Are there more crimes now?

A- Yes, robberies has doubled in this area. Many crimes are up although more serious crimes are down.

Q-How do I report abandoned house/cars?

A- Yes – Call your PSO and see also our website - <http://www.nhphoenix.org/ncpc/index.html>

Q- Can you help with my neighborhood crime wave (like Capricorn St)?

A-Report it- online and fax reporting.

Q-Measure Y = 807 officers – when will there be a beat officer for Beat 13 Y?

A- Can't answer right now but will look into it for us.

Note: There is a discussion on measure Y next week

On Thursday 8/9/07 @ 7 PM to 9PM at the Zion Lutheran Church on Park Blvd

Q-How do I report an abandoned car?

A-Call the abandoned vehicle number and after three days they move car

Q-What to do about construction crime?

A-Watch out for day laborers – who may be criminals or not but tell their friends who are criminals. Know the workers. Tell neighbors with construction about it – that you are worried about their construction workers committing crimes in the neighborhood.

Q-How do the police find my house? I'm worried they won't find me in the hills fast enough.

A-Thomas Brothers maps is what officer use.

Q-How about getting NAVI packages in squad cars to assist officers especially in the hill areas? The new ones are more accurate and less expensive.

A-They will look into it and the pricing of these, at least for the hills officers.

Q-.Are there Motorcycle Cops in our area?

A-Yes

Q-Are you using volunteer retired cops to solve serious crimes?

A-Yes, we are doing that now, we call them: Annuitants

Q-Any civilian police help?

A-Yes cadets are being used @schools. And there is also a "PAL" Program running now.