

Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

North Hills Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NH NCPC)

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Wednesday, October 3, 2007

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Actual Duration: 2 hours

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

1. Welcome (Nancy Mueller)

2. Introduction (Nancy Mueller)

Present were:

NH NCPC Interim Steering Committee

Nancy Mueller, Chair

Jim Dexter, Vice Chair & Webmaster

Teresa Ferguson, Treasurer

Steve Reinlib, Secretary

Oakland Police Department:

PSO Officer Debbie Mack - A special introduction of Debbie Mack to all present was done.

NSC Paul Brekke-Miesner

Oakland City Council District 1:

Justin Homer, Jane Brunner's Staff Member

During Justin's introduction there was some discussion of where Jane Brunner's and Jean Quan's districts boundaries.

North Hills Phoenix Association:

Teresa Ferguson, VP

There were several others in attendance. See the attendance sign in sheet.

Note that the order of these minutes is in the order of the Agenda and was not strictly followed in the meeting.

3. Review of September NH NCPC Final Priorities & Revised Priorities (Jim Dexter & OPD)

Jim added that the Traffic Priority no 1 was to alleviate speeders weaving thru neighborhood streets to avoid Hwy 13 backups. It was noted that speed enforcement had been set up on Moraga. Attendees were requested to submit additional priorities for us give to OPD.

4. Lack of OPD Feedback on NH NCPC Priorities (Jim Dexter)

Debbie Mack reported that she went to check out our Priority #1 on Tuesday evening and did not spot anything.

5. Minutes for September 2007 Meeting (Jim Dexter & Steve Reinlib)

A. Approval for September Meeting Minutes (Attached) Jim Dexter reported some corrections on his Sept minutes.

6. Status of October Crime Issues (Nancy Mueller, Teresa Ferguson, Jim Dexter)

A. Skateboarding (Nancy) – there have been internet postings and they are at irregular times.

B. Illegal activity at Gateway Demonstration Garden (Jim) – see also item # 4 above.

7. Status of CLUB Sales (Teresa Ferguson)

A. Plan for disposition of unsold Clubs – Conversation about car theft being down possibly indicating that clubs and paying attention has made a difference.

8. Status of NO PARKING Signage in the Hills (Nancy Mueller and Paul Brekke-Miesner)

A. Current state of signage: Unchanged.

B. Plans for improvement of signage - New signs will be completed any day now. Paul has reviewed but that was at night and he will do a more thorough review in daytime.

C. Schedule of Milestones for Project – Paul will forward the list of where they are to go to Justin.

Question: Who do we contact about additional signage. (Many signs have been removed by contractors) ANSWER: Asst. Chief J. Edwards of Oakland Fire Dpt for narrow streets. Public Works for missing parking signs.

9. Status of Neighborhood Watch Groups (Paul Brekke-Miesner)

A. Growth of group numbers. There are 19 active groups in 13Y currently. The training of ten additional groups has begun and this will mean a future total of 29 groups in 13Y. Paul is asking all of us to see if there is any interest in our blocks becoming watch groups.

B. Loss of any groups? – not at this time.

C. Procedures for Groups in NH NCPC - There are block captains waiting to get their block groups started.

Jim has listed all the different streets below Hwy 24 to track neighborhood watch groups. He stated the goal of having every neighborhood in 13Y with a watch group. There was some discussion of helping to make this happen.

10. Inter-Community Police Radio Communications Status (Nancy Mueller)

A. Situation in Oakland OPD

B. Situation in Berkeley OPD

C. State of Communications with the Cities of San Leandro, Emeryville, and with Contra Costa and Alameda Counties – Paul said that there is almost no radio communications between Oakland and Berkeley but they are discussing it. "Possibly a joint-city neighborhood watch group could be valuable. This would help catch criminals that cross the border." Some discussion ensued about the border overlap and police and crime.

Q – What about temporary radios that is inexpensive?

A – Paul will bring that up in the next meeting.

D. Sub-Committee for Berkeley/Oakland/Emeryville?

E. Sub-Committee for San Leandro?

F. Sub-Committee for Contra Costa and Alameda Counties?

11. Review of NH NCPC Meeting Schedule (Jim Dexter)

A. Review of existing 2007-2008 meeting schedule – See the schedule below

B. Discussion of Possible Changes (if any) – Discussion of how we can send out monthly priorities monthly and timely. We don't have to do it on a calendar month. Paul said that as soon as he gets them from us he sends them on. If we don't submit new ones than Paul automatically sends out the old ones again. Paul wants to know when he can count on getting them and how will he get them? Debbie Mack said, "Thanks for commenting on this."

Because if she knows about it she can document and do something about it. We agreed to delay the finalization of the monthly priorities until one day after the month's meeting, to allow for final input from the meeting attendees.

C. Discussion of Upcoming Election (if any) – Steve nominated Barry Pilger as chair of the nominations committee. The nomination was seconded by Nancy. After some discussion about committees and elections, Barry was unanimously elected as head of the Nominations Committee. Teresa will send an email asking for others to serve on Barry's committee. Barry suggested that there be the following standing committees: NH Watch Group Formation Committee, Publicity, Nominations Committee, Program Committee.

12. Recruitment of Publicity Manager (Jim Dexter & Teresa Ferguson)

A. Recruitment of Graphic Artist for Logo for NH NCPC (Ed Dremann) – Jim reported that Ed Dremann may be available for this.

B. Pipeline for Publicity – Sara Somers (652-4880) volunteered to be the Publicity Manager.

C. Should be someone familiar with publicity and graphic arts. Teresa F stated that Sue Piper would work with and give guidance to Sara Somers, our new Publicity Manager.

13. Current Options for Publicity (Jim Dexter & Teresa Ferguson)

A. Banners? Jim D. and Sue Piper are working on the new banners to advertise our meetings. Jim will send out the proposed text. They are recommending 5 banners be made. There was discussion of whether to get funds for this from the City and to see if local print shops (Kinkos) might do it as a courtesy. This led to some discussion of whether NH NCPC was a legal non-profit and if we are under the municipal NCPC 501C3. This information needs to be available. Possible additional area for banner is Amito and Alvarado.

B. A-frame Placards from Realty Companies? Nancy Moore will get 2, Barry Pilger will get 3 and Nancy Mueller will get 3 frames. This is a total of 8 double sided frames or 16 signs to put out on various corners.

C. Volunteers to put out placards and banners? – Steve volunteered to put up banner at Mountain (or Moraga?) & Thornhill.

D. Establish a NH NCPC Yahoo! Group? –Jim and Barry will set up a list server instead of a Yahoo Group.

14. Progress on NH NCPC Website (Jim Dexter)

A. Duplicate website hosted by Barry Pilger

B. Review of MSIC (beat 13Z) website to NH NCPC website progress – Jim will build a draft form of the new NH NCPC website and will put the top 6 pages of that website onto Barry's website.

15. Plans for Next PSA2 Meeting (Nancy Mueller & Jim Dexter) (PSA = Police Service Area)

- A. Meeting with Lt. Meeks and all PSA2 NCPC Heads
- B. Topics for Discussion? None submitted

16. Plans for Next NH NCPC Quarterly Meeting (Nancy Mueller) - we are expecting 200 people to attend.

- A. November 7, 2007, Topic is Oakland Police Department's Reorganization and Neighborhood Watch
- B. Anticipated Speakers For Meeting – Various changes were discussed including speakers' times (as follows), the order of speakers (as follows was one suggestion which will be finally decided by emails after this meeting)

Paul to introduce Claudia:

Claudia Albano (Speaks for 5 minutes) Philosophy and Structure of Community Policing & NW Groups and intro Nicholas.

Nicholas Vigilante (Speaks for 5 minutes) Overview of NW Groups and intro Chief

Chief Tucker (Speaks for 35 minutes) Importance of NW Groups to OPD – the Chief was given more time and there was some discussion about having the Chief's questions be directed towards the NCPC and Watch groups. Also we would like the Chief to address his overview of the geographic restructuring of the OPD.

~~Felicia Verdin (Speaks for 5 minutes) Overview of Neighborhood Services & NW Groups~~

~~Brenda Ivey (Speaks for 5 minutes) NW Group Training~~

C. Draft of November Meeting Agenda

It was suggested that item 3D from the November agenda be replaced by a handout by Teresa which Steve will hand out on Crime reporting.

D. Plans for Food – A more formal food solution is needed for this meeting due to the large anticipated turnout. Nancy and Teresa will confer and determine the solution. Comment that Peets would donate coffee and Noah's will donate bagels if asked.

E. Plans for Recognition – Discussion of name tags with people's name and street listed as well as their neighborhood watch group (if any) so everyone will be associated with their neighborhoods.

F. Plans for Registration/Information Gathering – Nancy Moore and Sara volunteered to be greeters at the meeting.

G. Plans for Reception - Jim will handle the Question and Answer period. People entering will be asked to write down their question so that Chief Tucker could answer succinctly. Jim will prepare a written question form to be passed out to all attendees at the beginning of the meeting. This will not prevent people from asking individual questions as time allows.

THERE WILL BE A RAFFLE OF 2 OAKLAND As TICKETS AT THE MEETING. You must be present to win.

17. Open Discussion (Nancy Mueller)

Paul suggested that 13Y become officially recognized, by the CPAB (overall organization for NCPCs in Oakland).

Barry said that Contractors parking at no parking signs generated some calls to the City who sent out parking enforcement. When the enforcement officer was verbally abused she called OPD who sent out e police cars and that everything went the way it is supposed to go.

Steve said that there seemed to be quite a lot more officer presence in beat 13Y recently. There was some agreement about this.

There were some Questions and Answers:

Q – How do we know if someone is a legitimate solicitor?

A – See if they have a valid license on them. All vendors of any type must have an Oakland-issued license on them.

Q - If we see magazine solicitors in our area, what should we do?

A – You can always call OPD's non-emergency number 777-3333. Sometimes those pretending to be solicitors may have a warrant. Also, discuss solicitors you see and other things you see with your neighbors to compare stories.

Q- What do we do about gardeners – they don't have licenses? What should we do if we suspect a crime?

A – You can always call OPD's non-emergence number – 777-3333.

Q – What happens when you call OPD?

A – Your call gets routed to the next available patrol car. Depending on how busy they are, they may be out in 5 minutes, 5 hours or not at all. But a log is created which may be useful later on.

Some discussion about how calling OPD to report all issues is what we do to protect our neighbors and our neighborhood. Just calling OPD helps create more attention in our neighborhood which a deterrence to criminal activity when they see more patrol cars.

Q- Have there been any violent crime reports? Why hasn't this been addressed in our priorities?

A – We haven't had any recent violent crimes in our beat 13Y.

Q – How does the new CHP interface with Oakland OPD help us?

A – Not in our area. This is for East Oakland for alcohol and drug use but if it reduces crime in Oakland then there is more security for us all.

18. Closing Remarks (Nancy Mueller)

Upcoming Calendar:

NH NCPC Quarterly Meeting Wednesday, November 7, 2007

NH NCPC Steering Committee Meeting Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.