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City of Los Angeles Certified
Neighborhood Council

Public Safety Committee Minutes

Monday, September 8, 2014 7:00pm

Robertson Recreation Center
1641 Preuss Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90035

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Michael Lynn called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. There were brief introductions by Committee members.

Board Committee Members Present: Michael Lynn, Victoria Martin, Michael Bloom, Beth Hirsch, and Leo Portal.

Community Committee Members Present: Kenneth Lowenstein and Daniel Braum.

Board Committee Members Absent: Robyn Braun.

Others present: Andrew Levenworth, Sari Katz, Larry Bogatz (CERT), and Bayla Romm.

Guests: Rick Ballesteros (LAPD), Maria Gray (LAPD), Stacey Taylor (LAFD), Ky Sean Smith (mypatrol.com).

II. General Public Comment

Bayla Romm, a stakeholder, commented on plants growing in the park way in the Crestview area, which blocks view of cars and is a transportation issue. Michael Lynn, Chair, suggested to query Liz Carlin (CD-10) via e-mail and cc Transportation and Land Use Committees. Michael Lynn also stated that he will forward a PDF from the City of what people are allowed to plant on parkway.

Leo Portal brought up previous minutes. Michael Lynn asked if there are any corrections to minutes. There were none. Prior minutes approved.

[Daniel Braum entered at 7:14 PM]

Leo Portal brought up the issue of the speed radar and that he previously sent an email to Officer Ballesteros. Officer Ballesteros stated he spoke to his supervisor and that there is limited trailers for speed radar and no routine because of trailer limitations.

Leo Portal asked if the LAPD produces a list of car accidents that occur similar to the list of crimes. Officer Ballesteros said no and



suggested contacting the West Traffic Division. Bayla Romm stated that the West Traffic Division meets every Wednesday and that Robert Wrangler is Chair.

III. Old Business

a. Neighborhood Watch Committee

1. Crime Alert Flyer.

Chair Michael Lynn noticed a jump in reported crimes between July and August since the report is a page extra. Officer Ballesteros stated that in 459s there were burglaries over past two weeks, which made things spike. Officer Ballesteros stated that we (SORO) don't get them a lot. There were also many GTA's from Honda's to Tacoma's in the S. of National and Venice area and LAPD has made some arrests. Aggravated assaults in the area went down.

In 2013 there were 26 violent crimes. In 2014 there were 40 violent crimes. Violent crimes in 2014 went up 53%. The total property crimes in 2013 were 314. In 2014 there were 196 property crimes. Serious crimes in 2013 were 340 and 236 in 2014.

Officer Ballesteros stated that he gets whatever resources are allowed and that he is able to get priority on whatever he requests from the Department.

Michael Lynn brought up the robbery that occurred last Thursday at CVS. Ballesteros stated that he has no details on this.

Bayla Romm said she heard from a neighbor who was at CVS when the robbery occurred that there were 5-6 masked gunmen and patrons hustled into an emergency exit. The crime was reported on social site, NextDoor.

Officer Ballesteros stated that he checked w/ Wilshire division, but can't find anything about that particular crime. He stated that he only found information about a suspected petty shoplifter at CVS.

Officer Ballesteros advised to call 911 for crimes or non-emergency line and a person can remain anonymous. People can also go into my LA311.org and report crimes that way.

Leo Portal brought up what he thought was a shooting on Robertson and Cadillac near the Bagel Factory. It sounded like gunshots, but Officer Ballesteros said that it was fireworks.



Michael Lynn stated that Terrence Gomes witnessed a hit and run on two cars recently. Also, a pedestrian was struck on Pico on Beverly last week on September 3, 2014.

Officer Ballesteros stated that he will request radar on that area to West TD and once West TD understands what is happening they will put in more speed radars.

Leo Portal said to Officer Ballesteros that he had a meeting West TD, but not enough information was provided. Leo Portal went and looked again and came out with more pages on that particular intersection that there were 2 fatalities on La Cienega and 18th street. Officer Ballesteros stated that there are way too many city wide.

Stacey Taylor (LAFD) stated that City of L.A. is having a lot of accidents and ambulances are being hit. Stacey stated that this particular area is worst area to drive in the city. People are also on their cell phones and cars are being marketed as sound proof so people inside can't hear anything. Stacey Taylor stated that we all have to drive more defensively.

Leo Portal stated that he hasn't seen police at intersections 18th and La Cienega. Michael Lynn disagreed with Leo Portal. Officer Ballesteros stated that he patrols the La Cienega parking lot. Daniel Braum stated that there are playboy crips in the area so there are LAPD patrols in the area. Officer Ballesteros stated that there are officers are here all the time whether in plain clothes or police attire. Leo Portal disagreed. Ballesteros stated that he will submit another request to Captain Rolando.

2. LAPD Briefing.

See above.

3. City Attorney Briefing.

There was no City Attorney Briefing.

b. Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee

1. LAFD Briefing.

Stacey Taylor from LAFD stated that the LAFD is rolling out new smoke alarm program. There were 5 fatalities in Battalion 18.

[enters 7:45 PM — Larry Bogatz]



Stacey Taylor states that there were 20 fatalities in the City and 18 were because there was no working smoke alarm or none at all. Typically City has 20 per year for house fires. Under new fire chief, Chief Ralph Terrazas, the LAFD is giving away 500 smoke alarms per month each with a 10 year battery life.

Stacey Taylor discussed My Safe LA, which is fire education and disaster preparedness with City. of L.A. The program provides smoke alarm and earthquake safety literature.

[Stacey exited the meeting at 7:45 PM because she's on-duty]

Larry Bogatz said the LAFD is partnering w/ Red Cross for a canvassing and installation day on Oct 20, 2014, which is the last day of preparedness week. It's a national activity. The City Attorney needs to clear installation aspect and then can come to SORO for some volunteers.

2. 5 Step Disaster Plan.

There was discussion about the 5-Step Disaster Program and if 5-Step works with CERT. L.A. is using 5-Step for neighborhood preparedness. Michael Lynn asked Larry Bogatz (CERT) if there are any updates. Larry Bogatz brought up a Disaster Awareness Training Course being held on September 27th in South L.A. and it is a 4 hour presentation. There is also one on the 13th in Balboa Park.

Kenneth Lowenstien brought up that because of the recent earthquake residents are on edge and not ready.

There was discussion about SORO NC supplies and water barrels that are not filled with water and sitting empty. Michael Lynn stated that we need someone who has time, a very long hose, and permission from City to get water barrels filled and fill out an application. SORO NC has 10 barrels and 5 barrels on the ground.

Leo Portal stated that he can commit to buying a hose and will talk to neighbors across the street to see if they can donate water. Michael Lynn suggested getting a neighbor to donate or City to approve. Michael Lynn stated that there's been a lot of issues. SORO NC has had the barrels for 3 years.

Larry Bogatz stated that the barrels can't be placed on concrete. The barrels need wood underneath them. Chemical has an expiration date of 5 years after the barrels are sealed.



Michael Lynn stated that the barrels can be filled as soon as it's feasible. Objective is to store them at the Recreation Center and will run by CERT and neighborhood teams.

Discussion was brought back to 5 Step Disaster Plan. Michael Lynn stated that there is a meeting coming up. Michael Bloom stated that the meeting is on September 17 at Rancho Park at 6 pm and it's free. People can register online. The meeting will teach attendees about the 5-step neighborhood disaster plan. There are three other meetings planned in the City of L.A. Larry mentioned that the 5 Step Program is excellent to give to an organization, but not appropriate for individuals.

Michael Lynn stated that he will be attending the upcoming ENLA (Emergency Network Los Angeles) meeting.

c. Planning a CHP car seat checking day

Michael Bloom asked the Committee to provide him with a date and he will find a location for the CHP car seat checking day. Michael Bloom stated that there was no funding required— that it's a free program. CHP event is SORO sponsored and open to the public.

A Motion was made to draft a Motion for SORO NC to sponsor the event in November. Michael Bloom will draft the Motion and talk to Outreach Committee to see if they can assist with funding for the event. The Motion will deal specifically with the actual event. Michael Lynn was in support of the Motion; Victoria Martin seconded the motion. There was no discussion and unanimous vote. Motion passes.

Michael Lynn suggested to Michael Bloom tomorrow or the next day to get the Motion submitted before the next SORO NC Board meeting.

d. Timeline for 2015 Emergency Preparedness Expo

Leo Portal, Michael Lynn, and Beth Hirsch have contacted businesses to inquire about corporate sponsorship/grants for 2015 Emergency Preparedness Expo.

The list of corporations Committee members should contact was reviewed by Michael Lynn. Michael Lynn stated that he will email the list to Committee.

Potential Corporate Sponsors for Committee Members to Contact:

24 hr fitness - Victoria Martin



Ross - Victoria Martin
AMCO - ?
Arco - Beth Hirsch
Ralphs - Beth Hirsch
Chase Bank - Daniel Braum
City Corp. - Michael Lynn
Dominos - Beth Hirsch
El Pollo Loco - ?
Enterprise - ?
Hertz Rent-A-Car - ?
Jack and the Box - ?
Papa Johns - Beth Hirsch
Petco - Beth Hirsch
Rite Aid - Beth Hirsch
Shell Gas Station - ?
State Farm - Daniel Braum
Subway - Beth Hirsch
United Oil - Daniel Braum
Valero - ?
Wells Fargo - Kenneth Lowenstein
Yoshinova - ?
Office Max - ?
Office Depot - ?
Baskin Robbins - ?

Leo Portal mentioned that the LUED Committee has a list of all businesses in SORO. Michael Lynn stated that the current list is a starting point and more business to contact can be added later.

e. LADWP Water Piping Age - Safety Issues

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

IV. New Business

a. Emergency Preparedness - SORO Pamphlet

Michael Lynn brought up the Emergency Preparedness SORO pamphlet. The pamphlet will be a small pamphlet specific to SORO that contains basic information that stakeholders need. The pamphlet should be a bi-fold, multi-page pamphlet that is easily distributable. Michael Bloom is spearheading the project and there will be a vote to form a subcommittee. There was mention of the “Emergencies Do Happen” pamphlet from Los Angeles County, which is 8-10 pages. The pamphlet has information on fire stations and police stations.

Michael Lynn stated that there are supplies in the Recreation Center that is available for CERT to set up triage if needed. The



Recreation Center doesn't mean it's a designated location. There is a place to go in the North and South ends of the Neighborhood.

There was discussion of photos, maps, simplified instructions, protocol for the individual, preparedness for the family, household tips, building emergency kit, etc. in the pamphlet.

Michael Lynn stated that the pamphlet gets people to plan and think ahead and it will be specific to SORO. It will have the basics and the subcommittee can decide what goes in pamphlet.

Leo Portal asked where community will go in emergency. Michael Lynn stated that there will be a map of where to go in an emergency and what to look for. Zone reps have emergency signs.

Leo Portal stated that in Crestview every block has a block captain and said he thinks there should be a general place to get resources.

Michael Lynn stated that the Recreation Center has supplies and is a potentially a good place for triage. Hamilton High School has a football field.

Subcommittee formation and directives

A Subcommittee/Working Committee was established by unanimous vote and Michael Bloom, Beth Hirsch, and Ken Lowenstein volunteered to be part of the subcommittee/working group.

Larry asked if anyone has done this neighborhood specific pamphlet and Michael Lynn said yes. Michael Lynn stated that the target for the pamphlet is beginning of the next year 2015. Michael Lynn will turn over the box of information to Michael Bloom.

Larry said there is a meeting scheduled in Carthay at NC because of the robbery at CVS that occurred at Pico/Point View (not in SORO) Meeting is not scheduled, but someone from SORO should attend.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm

Respectfully Submitted By:

Victoria Martin, Vice Co-Chair