

FOOTHILL AREA COMMUNITY POLICE ADVISORY BOARD
JANUARY 10, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Capt Grimes, Capt Wendling, Sgt Salazar, Officer Wall, Officer Caloca, Officer Munguia, Officer Nunez, Officer Mundo, Officer Contreras, Co-Chair Phil Tabbi Jr, Roger Swart, Stella Arlington, Jon Gaboudin, Elektra Kruger, Gerhard Kruger, Margaret Shoemaker, Lee Mitaggart, Peter, Cindy Sower, Maribel Briseno, Nina Royal, Vanessa May, James Arias, Fred Hekmat

- I. Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Phil Tabbi, Jr. at 6:06pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. **MOTION:** by Roger Swart to approve the November 2018 C-PAB Minutes as submitted 2nd by Jon Camundian Vote: Unanimously approved
- IV. Foothill Area Crime Updates – Captain Grimes
 - a. In 2018:
 - i. Had more homicides – 9 - than in 2017 -7. Up 28.6%
 - ii. Had 1 less rape than in 2017. Down 1.7%
 - iii. Robberies were down 7.6% over 2017
 - iv. Aggravated assaults were down 10.9% over 2017
 - v. Total violent Part 1 Crimes were down 9% over 2017. Had the second greatest violent crime reduction in all of Los Angeles
 - vi. Property crimes saw successes in all categories except one – motor vehicle theft was up by 3 over 2017 = 0.8%
 - vii. Burglaries were down 3.3% over 2017
 - viii. Burglaries from motor vehicles were down 2.2% over 2017
 - ix. Regular theft was down 2% over 2017
 - x. Overall Part 1 property crime reduction = -3.1% over 2017
 - b. Goal for 2019 = 1% crime reduction citywide
 - c. Foothill Division has the lowest crime level in the City though not the greatest crime “reduction” in the City
- V. Constitutional Policing – Captain Grimes
 - a. There must be probable cause or reasonable suspicion before someone may be stopped
 - b. LAPD does not enforce immigration policies of the Federal Government. It is the function of the LAPD to care for the safety of, protection of and to serve the public
- VI. Introduction of Foothill Division’s new Patrol Captain, Captain Wendling
 - a. Captain Ponce has been transferred to Community Development and Outreach – a new community relationship division created downtown
 - b. Captain Brian Wendling is the new Patrol Capt. at Foothill. Has been a Capt. for almost 2 yrs. This is his 3rd time assigned to Foothill. Served as gang & patrol Sgt in 2000, Watch Commander in 2014 and has now returned as Patrol Capt.

- i. The Chief calls you and moves you from division to division, one has no input. Was upset being transferred to West LA because it was a long commute although it did turn out to be a good assignment
 - c. Is married with 3 kids, the oldest being severely disabled
 - d. In June will have spent 30 years with the LAPD, anticipates spending 35 to retirement
 - e. E-Mail =26929.lapd.online
 - f. "Area Captain" = Captain Grimes "Patrol Captain" = Captain Wendling
- VII. Volunteer Citizen Patrol – Officer Natalie Mundo
 - a. The program was recently started at Devonshire Div, also doing it in West Valley. Foothill Division has now adopted the program and currently has 6 volunteers in the program being assigned to patrol areas targeted with major burglaries/thefts
 - b. Volunteers are assigned to assist detectives in canvassing, picking up surveillance videos of burglaries/thefts, putting in 311 calls for quality of life issues, etc. Do not enforce any laws, do not issue tickets
 - c. If interested in joining, prepare an application, undergo a background check, undergo fingerprinting, get driver's training, get basic radio training. All driving will be "slow driving" no pursuits.
 - i. Minimal qualifications:
 - 1. Must have driver's license
 - 2. Must be greater than or equal to 18 years of age
 - ii. Q: With background checks, what would exclude one from being accepted into the program?
 - 1. Anything that comes up from a fingerprinting check eg a criminal record
 - 2. If a review of one's DMV history, there is a history of "bad points" since as a volunteer one will be driving an LAPD vehicle/will be responsible for City property
 - d. The purpose of the Citizen Patrol is to provide additional visibility
 - e. Q: Do volunteers go as pairs or alone?
 - i. Officer Natalie M.: We prefer to have volunteers go as partners, however if there are not enough volunteers available or a preassigned volunteer cannot make it, volunteers can go alone esp if only to retrieve videos
 - f. Cindy S.: I have a friend on Citizen Patrol that uses their own car - will you be doing that?
 - i. Officer Natalie M.: No. Volunteers will be in uniform so I would not feel comfortable sending them out in their own vehicles for their own safety
 - ii. Cindy S.: My friend was not in uniform
 - g. Capt. Grimes: Two cars have been assigned to Citizen Patrol – black and white BMWs with yellow emergency lights
 - h. Officer Natalie M.: Volunteers will not be enforcing any laws, will not be getting out of their cars, will not be approaching anyone that they believe is committing a crime. Safety for volunteers is a priority

- i. As a volunteer you can assist rerouting traffic in the area of a traffic collision to free up officers to do their job
 - i. Nina R.: Foothill Division had volunteer surveillance in 1989 with 50 people, 25 cars, 2 people/car. All would go out on the same night. If something was happening, chase car with SLOs would be notified – it was very successful
 - i. Resulted in a lot of arrests, prevented a lot of thefts
 - ii. Unfortunately 1 of us – me – was identified because we had our own cars and my house got gang-banged, so it is a good idea to have LAPD cars. If they are in an official car, in uniform, it would suggest there is back-up
 - iii. We did a lot of stake-outs as well
 - 1. Officer Natalie M.: This is not surveillance, this is “patrol” targeting property crimes – thefts, thefts from motor vehicles. No violent crimes
 - j. Q: Do the cars have cameras?
 - i. Officer Natalie M.: No, just a switch for the yellow light like DOT. The cars also do not have radios. Volunteers have radios like officers have so you can hear everyone talking & you know to stay away from an area where activity is happening
 - k. Goal = putting more people in the right place at the right time because officers cannot be everywhere. Although crime is low in Foothill Division, there is still crime
 - l. E-Mail = 41265@lapd.online Ph.: 818-485-0635
- VIII. Council Updates
- a. Susan Camona – CD7
 - i. See attached flyer “2018 in Review” – what the Council Office has accomplished in 2018
 - ii. The vacant lot across from Bobos Rentals which has been an eyesore has been taken care of. The owner has allowed people to dump their trash at that location.
 - iii. In the month of November, Parking Enforcement was able to address 1,486 cars of which 97 were impounded
 - iv. Among the Motions that Councilmember Rodriguez submitted last year were to extend State of California classified “hate crimes” to crimes committed against homeless people
 - v. New speed bumps are being installed in Pacoima on El Dorado between Van Nuys and _____? _____
 - vi. Resurfacing has been happening
 - vii. LTCCA will be having a meeting next Tues at 7pm. DOT will be present to take feedback on recent safety improvements. Some improvements still one the way = repainting of crosswalks at 10 signal light intersections
 - viii. Vanessa M.: reported that the community needs the assistance of CD7 w/ regards to protests filed against the 7-11 across fr HD in an area of Foothill Bl btw Osborne & Van Nuys that is subject to a lg alcoholic beverage outlet density

1. Capt Grimes: Stated that this was a C-PAB meeting at which items that C-PAB can assist may be discussed. Items between the community and CD7 need to be discussed at a different venue
- b. Arturo Garcia – State Assembly District 39
- i. Legislature has reconvened. California has a new Governor. Assemblymember Rivas has a relief package that aim to provide aid to the homeless in the District
 1. The package prioritizes investing Statewide resources to better implement the McKinney-Vento Act. The Bill would help local edu agencies identify all homeless children enrolled at the school
 - ii. There is a joint program btw CalTrans/Metro to provide a free Fwy Service Patrol in which privately owned tow trucks patrol designated routes to provide assistance to drivers/vehicles. Dial 511
 - iii. The North Valley County Regional Center is having a free educational event presented in Spanish for parents with children with developmental disabilities – an informational on available State resources – see attached
 - iv. Report to CalTrans Website anything you see that needs their attention – works like the 311 app but is web-based. CSR.DOT.CA.GOV. Once you make this report & get a service #, report the # to our office, we will oversee it from there
 - v. C: There are still a lot of homeless around the Paxton area
 1. Arturo G.: The challenge there is 1 of split jurisdiction. As soon as people go onto sidewalks, it becomes City jurisdiction. As they cross the gated property it becomes a public safety issue w/ different procedures
- IX. Mark Ross – Neighborhood prosecutor assigned to Foothill Division
- a. In Sept the State passed a law saying that vending is not a criminal offense but gave local municipalities freedom to regulate vending as they see fit w/this limitation. In Nov LA came up w/vending rules. Rules eff Jan 2019, permits not required til Jan 2020
 - i. Because vending is no longer a criminal offense, any violation of rules will be dealt with by administrative fine – an ACE citation. No matter how many violations one racks up, it will never be rated as criminal
 - ii. Certain places will be banned from vending:
 1. Dodger Stadium
 2. Staple Center
 3. Hollywood Walk of Fame
 4. Universal Studios
 5. Big tourist attraction sites
 - iii. Enforced by BSS, not LAPD.
 - iv. Rec and Parks will have their own rules – on their website. Identifies what one can vend, vendors must be 20 ft from one another with only 2/acre. Rules effective Jan 2019, permits not required til Jan 2020 except for those required by State/County

- X. How does LAPD deal with mentally disabled – Captain Wendling
 - a. A big challenge bec it is not a crime to be mentally disabled & that ties LAPD’s hands unless there is concern that the person may be a danger to himself/herself or others in which case LAPD can have the person placed on 72 hr hold in a hospital
 - i. The challenge comes when people are taken to a hospital, get treated, get medication that helps them function better, they get lucid, they are no longer a danger to themselves or others, get released, stop taking their meds – it becomes a vicious cycle
 - b. It is not a crime to simply be mentally ill. If they like where they are living, they cannot be forced with a forceable referral. They can be helped with resources and LAPD tries, but if they don’t want it, they don’t have to take it
- XI. Maribel Briseno - Phoenix House
 - a. Phoenix House is a residential treatment facility in LVT on Eldridge by HD Park. Phoenix House provides residential treatment services for drugs and alcohol for youth as well as a mental health component.
 - b. Works to prevent underage drinking
 - c. Will be sponsoring an individual for their Cansera – coming of age celebration. Individual is to be a student attending either Arleta, Caesar Chavez, Panorama, Polytechnic, Fan Fernando, Sylmar Biotech or SVHS
 - i. There will be an application process. Phoenix House will have a committee looking for the candidate. The party will be free to them. To be held at Phoenix House April 27. No alcohol will be served
 - d. I will be heading a program working with liquor stores to provide more information to folks buying alcohol the week prior to Super Bowl. Will be putting stickers on multi-packs reminding people to keep the alcohol away from youth
 - i. Stickers tell what the consequences are should they contribute the delinquency of a child/minor. We want to partner with LAPD and explore someone at Foothill Division to help us out with that
 - ii. It is our second time doing it
 - iii. Phoenix House is looking for a Board Member in the law enforcement area
- XII. Cindy Sower representing CD6
 - a. SVANC will be teaming with Councilmember Martinez’s Office to hold a CERT class at the steam plant. Will start Jan 17. There are still some seats available. It is a 7-week course.
 - b. It is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Councilmember Martinez is running her toiletry collection. There will be a drop-off area at her office
 - c. A Community Business Watch will be held Wed Jan 16 at Industrial Metal Supply by Councilmember Martinez. Businesses are encouraged to attend because of the encampments, etc
 - d. SVANC is going to do a clean-up around the area of their office next to the Town Café on Sunland/Glenoaks along with an Open House that day Jan 26 from 8am to 12pm

XIII. Announcements

a. Phil Tabbi, Jr.

- i. ANC gave a donation to C-PAB which will be going to FAVA = \$300
- ii. I will henceforth be sending out text messages to everybody notifying everybody of upcoming meetings. There is a need to change the date of next month's meeting

b. Captain Grimes

- i. I request that all C-PAB attendees think about something that we want to accomplish as a group that is "accomplishable" as a group eg go to a community, speak to residents and give out flyers on crime reduction
 1. Have a clean-up day. Hook up to 311 requests and go around to clean up the 311 clean-up requests. That can be done in a couple of hours. I want C-PAB to be a functional group of workers
 2. Cindy S.: Last year SVANC worked with the Sunburst Academy – could C-PAB work with the Sunburst Academy?
 3. Capt. Grimes: We can do anything we want – work with any group that we wanted to that makes sense

XIV. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm