

Minutes of the Community Policing Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 2, 2012
6pm
City Hall, Officer John Hege Hearing Room (#3)
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA

Item #1: Call to Order, Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. No quorum could be declared.

The following members were present:

- Chairperson Johnson
- Krista Gulbransen
- Greg Novak
- Vertis Whitaker
- Angie Haller
- John Nichols

- Tamera White

The following members were excused:

- Jennifer Pae
- Jeffrey Cash

Item #2: Open Forum

Beat 22 PSO Belote gave a brief overview of the top 3 priorities:

- 1) A sharp increase in burglaries resulted in the creation of a suppression plan which resulted in a 50% decrease in burglaries.
- 2) At the intersection of Fruitvale Avenue and MacArthur Blvd there are a lot of juveniles loitering after school and committing criminal acts. For example, some days over 100 juveniles congregate at the intersection, and they used social media to organize a fight in Dimond Park. If law enforcement is present they usually stay on the bus and bypass the intersection. This is also happening in other locations. Working with AC Transit, OUSD police, merchants, residents and others they are developing a plan. If a model can be developed at this location it can be used at other areas as well.
- 3) There is a project to increase the number of Neighborhood Watch groups in the beat. Because we don't have as many officers as we need, neighbors need to be aware and report criminal activity. The number of Neighborhood Watch groups has increased to 40 in 22x.

Jim Dexter made the following comments:

- Currently there are over 600 officers. There will be a police academy at the end of August that will graduate in June 2013. Before those officers are on the street there will be less than 610 officers, total. Then we are in a free-fall because there is no other academy scheduled or budgeted at this time. Mr. Dexter suggests that as an

advisory committee, the CPAB should recommend to the City that they adjust their priorities to address this crisis – so that Oakland has at least 3 academies per 2 years to keep us at 600 plus offices. Four academies would be better as it would allow us to increase our staffing.

Item #3: Review and Approval of Minutes, Regular Meeting February 2, March 7, and April 4, 2012

This item was continued until the next meeting because there was no quorum.

Item #4: Oakland Police Department Strategic Plan and other Crime Reduction Strategies

Referring to the OPD Strategic Plan, Vision 3: The Oakland Community and the Oakland Police Department Work Together to Solve Community and Neighborhood Concerns and Issues (page 31) and related strategic Objectives (Pages A26 -A28) Chairperson Johnson asked what would participation from the CPAB look like? OPD Assistant Chief, Anthony Toribio, requested the CPAB to review the strategic objectives and to provide guidance, suggestions and advice on how to achieve them as the department is interested in working collaboratively with the CPAB and other stakeholders on them.

In response to a question regarding the definition of community policing, Chief Toribio said that there is an OPD Training Bulletin on community policing, but simply put, *it is a partnership between the police and the community to identify and solve problems*. With community policing, he said, residents are an active participant in identifying and solving problems. He said there are many definitions out there that range from the philosophical to the technical but the definition stated above is what he believes and what Chief Jordan supports. An example of how community policing works for beat officers is in taking burglary reports. Prior, they would take a report and leave. Now they do a security check on residence and canvass the neighborhood. This adds communication, education, and relationship-building. Another example of community policing is National Night Out where neighbors not only get to know each other, but when officers visit the parties they get to know each other better as well.

It was commented that the NSCs do a tremendous amount of work in community policing - and take work off of the shoulders of the PSOs so they can concentrate on problem solving. They train the community, and help the community in ways the officers can't.

It was emphasized that the CPAB would like to hear about and have the opportunity to comment on things like the 100 blocks and the OPD Strategic Plan prior to going to

committee or council. They can help with education and do community outreach if they are consulted in time.

Chief Toribio said that once the CPAB provides OPD with recommendations, Chief Jordan will decide what recommendations and advice he will take and he will base his decision on many factors. He knows the Chief values the recommendations of the CPAB and asked that once recommendations are given and the decisions made that they be respected as the decision of the Chief.

In response to a question, Chief Toribio said that he would appreciate receiving the recommendations of the CPAB sooner rather than later as we are more than half way through the strategic plan and the strategies may need to be adjusted. The plan can look beyond 2013 and that the CPAB's recommendations could look beyond 2013 as well. As the CPAB develops its recommendations, Chairperson Johnson said he suggests bringing this to community for discussion.

In response to a question, Chief Toribio said that officers do get PR training, however once the Officers start going from call to call and they start to compromise on those skills as they try to clear calls. He said what PD needs to do is to set the expectation that officers are professionals and one way that manifests is in his/her conduct and the discipline they use in exercising their duties.

Speakers:

Frank Castro, Chair of the Greater Rockridge NCPC (12y13x)

- The OPD Strategic Plan was never implemented. He remembers former Chief Batts going around the community talking about it, but there was no following up on the implementation.
- Based on the timeframe in the document, many of these items should have been implemented by now. A plan revision needs to be done.
- He recommends finding out from OPD what things have already been done so we don't reinvent the wheel.
- The January draw interrupts the relationship between residents and the officers. To achieve full community policing we need consistency with the officers.

Jim Dexter, Chair of the North Hills NCPC (13Y)

- The OPD Strategic Plan was developed with community input over many months - leading to a proto plan. So this plan is an incomplete plan. It was to include metrics. That's what CPAB should do - define the measure of success for each item in the Plan.

- OPD needs to come to the CPAB prior to the development of such documents as the Plan. It went to Rules on April 5, then to the Public Safety Committee on April 24 without input from the CPAB.
- He trust Chief Toribio, but there are serious changes that need to happen in how OPD treats the CPAB.

Item #5: Oakland’s 100-Block Community Initiative to Reduce Violence

- The Mayor’s Senior Policy Advisor for Public Safety, Reygan Harmon, recapped her presentation on the 100 Blocks from the last CPAB meeting. Please refer to the minutes of the April 4, 2012 meeting for an overview.
- She is working with KTOP to put it on the web so everyone can see it.
- She also asked how the CPAB could participate more. For example, OPD is doing looking for community members to be on interview panels for the 25 COPPS officers who will work at the Middle Schools, and Code 33 is coming back. These are two ways that the CPAB’s input could be valuable.

Speakers:

Jim Dexter, Chair of the North Hills NCPC (13Y)

- Regarding the issue of OPD data - it is incomplete and not reliable.
- An academy coming up in late August. If there are approximately 55 candidates in the academy, approximately 50 will graduate.
- Once they graduate, they are in training for 16 weeks and a senior police officer must be taken off of their regular duties to train them. So, OPD is still down to 600 officers during that time and pulling out senior officers which further decreased OPD’s capabilities
- Measure Y is coming up for renewal. The word on the street is that it will fail because it has a horrible history and nobody trusts that it will pass and that will mean an additional 63 PSOs and PSO sergeants will disappear.
- We are looking at a public safety crisis in the city and the CPAB needs to reflect that to the Public Safety Committee, the Council and the community.

Item #6: Chair Report

- Chairperson Johnson was asked what neighborhood he lived in for report to the Council. It was explained that a Councilmember had asked what was the distribution of CPAB members by BFO as it was thought that there were no CPAB members in BFO II. Richard Cowan from the Mayor’s Office was charged with doing the report. It was noted that in the CPAB bylaws members are recommended based on Council district and other criteria, not by BFO.
- It was noted we would have had a quorum if Frank Castro’s name hadn’t been misspelled in the Council report.

- A letter was send to the 22x NCPC asking them to use the bylaws that were approved by the CPAB – version 3A – in their recertification documents which will be sent to them after the recertification process is ratified by the CPAB at an upcoming meeting.
- The NCPC Resources Committee will meet when there is a Committee chosen.

Speaker:

Jim Dexter

- Referring to page 3 second paragraph, second sentence of the OPD Strategic Plan - this is the type of thing the CPAB should have had the opportunity to comment on. In the dropping the community policing beats by OPD, it says that the CPAB and Measure Y Committees were consulted, but that is not true. An active CPAB would have caught this.

Item #7: Agenda Building for the June, 2012 meeting

- The motion from the last meeting regarding recertification needs to be re-voted on since there was no quorum. However there are already copies of the recertification form out there – but Allene Warren can keep working on it, regardless.
- The Chair will develop and agenda item related to: Developing an effective outreach and involvement plan for the CPAB so it is relevant to the NCPCs and the community. Including: having CPAB meetings in the community, how CPAB members attend NCPC meetings, reviews the current bylaws, etc.
- The new members need to get the orientation binders.

Item #8: Adjournment

- Chairperson Johnson thanked Krista Gulbransen for all of her work as the previous Chair and led the group in a round of applause.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm