

**Community Policing Advisory Board
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 4, 2012
City Hall, Hearing Room #3**

Item # 1: Call to Order, Establishment of a Quorum: Chairperson Johnson

The meeting was called to order at 6:12pm and a quorum was declared as seven members were present.

The following members were present:

- Vertis Whitaker
- Greg Novak
- Marcus Johnson
- Tamera White
- Angela Haller
- John Nichols
- Jeffrey Cash

The following members were excused:

- Krista Gulbransen
- Jennifer Pae

The following members were absent:

- Joanne Mitchell

Item #2: Open Forum

- Frank Castro, the chair of Greater Rockridge NCPC (12y13x) introduced himself and mentioned he was recently elected by the Neighborhood Watch Steering Committee as the representative to the CPAB.
- As an NCPC Chair, he thinks that the NCPCs should be funded, as he and others have spent their personal funds to produce flyers and other items on behalf of the NCPC. He said even a small amount of money would go a long way.

Item #3: Review and Approval of the Minutes

- **MOTION. February 1, 2012 meeting:** It was moved by Member Haller and seconded by Member Whitaker to approve the minutes of this meeting. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Motion passes.
- **MOTION: March 7, 2012 meeting:** It was moved by Member Whitaker and seconded by Member Haller to approve the minutes of this meeting with the following correction: Under Item #8 Verbal Report and Committee Recommendation for Beat 22x By laws format he NCPC Resources Committee, first bullet, last line, change Daniel Swofford to Jeff Edman. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention. Motion passes.
- There was a request to please number the pages of the minutes.
- It was noted that the CPAB received a clarification from the City Attorney's Office regarding a question about how to count abstentions. They said an abstention is

not counted as a “nay” vote, it is considered not voting at all. So, for example, if the vote was 3 ayes, 5 abstentions, and 2 no votes, the motion would pass.

Item #4: Oakland’s 100 Block Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (This item was taken out of order, and was heard after Item #5.)

Reygan Harmon, the Mayor’s Senior Advisor for Public Safety gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 100 Block Initiative. Highlights of her presentation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A variety of sources, including the Mayor’s Town Hall meetings, focus groups with NCPCs, gang members, formerly incarcerated, faith community leaders, etc said that the homicide rate in Oakland was an issue.
- The goal of the 100 block initiative is to reduce the number of homicides and shootings in Oakland.
- Data analysis over the past 5 years showed 5% of the City is where 90% of the shootings and homicides take place and can be clustered into five hot-spot areas or the “100 Blocks”.
- Goals for these areas include the following:
 - Draw on Best Practices from such locations as New York with the Compstat process, LA with the GRYD model (aka the parks model), Chicago with the Ceasefire program, Harlem’s Children’s Zone, and San Jose’s internal communications and meaningful community engagement.
 - Concentrated multi-agency enforcement where monthly meetings increase collaboration.
 - Prioritized City services so city department are more proactive and vigilant.
 - Provide community engagement and mobilization
 - Provide opportunities to youth and families
- Decreasing shootings and homicides benefits the City as a whole because the high crime rate affects business attraction and subsequently the tax base. In short, we rise or fall together.
- Speaker: Jim Dexter (13Y)
 - This committee has had now had an official report on the 100 Blocks. It is confusing because the Chief says that OPD has not changed what they are doing for the 100 blocks which is contrary to the report you just heard.
 - We have to be sure all future public safety plans and related issues come through the CPAB rather than this Committee finding out afterwards
 - OPD has assigned 22 PSOs to work as CRTs and this was news to him. This committee was not advised of this either. When OPD moved from 57 beats to 35 beats, it was done without community input either. This begs the question, what is the CPAB advising on when you didn’t even know about the PSOs, etc.
 - And looking forward, the city council members have asked for a full citywide Public Safety Plan and asked the police to provide that to the Public Safety Committee – by passing the CPAB.

- Questions and comments regarding the 100 Blocks presentation included but are not limited to the following:
 - For those who don't live in high-crime areas, all we have is our PSO, and the NSC. That's our only connection to OPD. It is a big issue when the PSO is called off because that's their lifeline to OPD.
 - We need to bring all the City and community-based crime and violence prevention resources together. Who is in charge of volunteers? There could be so much more to the 100 Blocks Plan that could be done.
 - Lt Alexander commented that it is true that in July 2011 they put some PSOs on as CRTs, but there are still 35 PSO - and there is a dedicated PSO for every beat. Also, the CRTs partner with the PSOs to do the enforcement on their beat projects. The PSOs couldn't do the enforcement work alone.
 - When the PSO goes home it seem like there is no one there. Beat officers are rarely seen.
 - Member Whitaker from 10Y said she hasn't seen her PSO in 8 months. Lt Alexander said he will talk with BFO 1 about it. Member Whitaker said she mentioned it last month as well.
 - Ms Harmon commended that she heard the frustration, but there aren't enough resources. There are 653 officers as of today. The Mayor tried to tax for more officers, but it didn't pass. There is an academy starting but with the attrition it is very challenging.
 - NCPC members in the hills beats say they pay taxes so where are our services? And in the core areas of East Oakland, the officers park and then after 3 minutes they are gone. Are they afraid to walk in those areas? OPD is short of officers, but staying would help.
 - Member White said she knew about the conversion of PSOs to CRTs so this was not a surprise to her. And, although 22 PSOs were converted to CRTs every NCPC has a PSO.
 - Member Novak commented regarding Sheffield Village, although their PSO Vierra is great, there have still been approximately 25 burglaries in the past 6 months. When the PSO is put on other assignments there are no other officers around. People in Sheffield Village are once again talking about succeeding from Oakland.
 - The development of the 100 Blocks plan completely bypassed the CPAB, just like the Summit and the Town Halls - the CPAB hears about it after the fact. The Plan could be more successful if it included input from CPAB, Neighborhood Watch Steering Committee, NCPCs, etc..
 - Chairperson Johnson commented that his Prescott NCPC reached out to OHA and OUSD when they saw their OPD resources diminishing. It is good to see this kind of collaboration in the 100 Block plan.
 - Ms. Harmon commented we could improve communication with each other.
 - Audience member Olu Oluwole asked Captain Mederios why, during the weekends, if those are the worst nights for crime that the police resources don't match up. Mederios responded that now OPD staggers the officers

to match the need - and it changes daily based on need. He also said OPD tries to learn from their mistakes.

There was a general discussion about how to make stakeholders aware that the CPAB needs to be consulted on public safety issues. Suggestions included:

- Writing a letter to the Public Safety Committee chair, and elected officials and others about this issue
- Representatives of the CPAB need to meet with stakeholders and remind them of our function.
- Representatives of the CPAB should attend the Rules and Public Safety Committee meetings.
- Ms Harmon should attend more CPAB meetings to increase communication with members. In addition, she should meet with the chair of the CPAB, NW Steering Committee and others on a regular basis.

Speaker: Jim Dexter

- The issues we are taking about relate to the level of OPD resources. We have less than 635 officers. These officers are leaving at a rate of 5-7 officers a month. By the time we have 55 officers graduate from the academy, with attrition; we will still be under 600 officers.
 - This is the crisis the City Council, the CPAB, and others are not addressing.
 - The 100 Block plan looks great as presented. How are we all going to work together to make it happen is the question?
 - **MOTION:** It was moved by Member Haller and seconded by Member Whitaker that the CPAB accept the 100 Block plan with the following concerns:
 - 1) There was no communication about the plan prior to its development with groups such as the CPAB, NCPs, NW groups, and the Neighborhood Watch Steering Committee;
 - 2) The beats officers are being pulled off their beats between 2pm and 12 midnight;
 - 3) PSOs being taken off of their beats for special assignments such as Occupy Oakland;
 - 4) There is no specific date for the loan period to end for the PSOS who were taken off if their beats for CRT duty; and
 - 5) 5) Communication between the CPAB and the City Council, Mayor's office, PSC and others needs to be improved.
- 4 ayes, 2 opposed 1 abstention. Motion passes.

Item #5: NCPs Re-Certification Report: Resource Committee (this item was taken out of order and was heard after Item #3)

Chairperson Nichols discussed the revised recertification form the Committee has been working on. The latest version is dated 3/6/12.

- **MOTION:** It was moved by Member Nichols and seconded by Member White to approve the NCPD Recertification form as written. 7 ayes, 0 nos, 0 abstentions. Motion Passes.
- It was noted that the form had been circulated in the community prior to its approval by the CPAB and it was suggested it would be better to wait for approval prior to circulation. Various suggestions were offered as a way to show documents are approved such as a watermark or the listing of a date of approval.
- It was noted that because not every NCPD meets monthly that the CPAB needs to give NCPDs time to fill out the recertification form.
- It was suggested that putting the form on line would facilitate its completion.
- The next step for the Committee is to figure out the process for completing the form and scheduling the recertifications. They will meet and come back with a report at the next CPAB meeting in May.

Item#6: Committee Assignments: Programs & Services Committee, Resources Committee

- Member Nichols will continue as the Chair of the NCPD Resource Committee.
- Committee roles and responsibilities and assignments will be discussed at the next meeting.

#7: Agenda Building for May 2, 2012 Meeting

- **Committee assignments.**
 - What is the purpose of the CPAB and what we are doing that filters to the NCPDs. What are our goals, responsibilities, roles and our outreach strategy?
 - We need to invite the NCPDs to come to our meetings - presentations from the NCPDs.
 - OPD standing agenda item. Lt Hamilton said he wanted to attend every meeting and provide a PSO presentation. Chairperson Johnson said he prefers OPD to attend with a purpose. Member Haller said she would like to see PSO presentation from the East side as well.
 - We need to set goals for ourselves
 - Audience member Nancy Sidebotham said NCPD chairs don't get the minutes of the CPAB so they know what's going on. She also said she was dropped from the CPAB subscriber list since she was not reappointed to the CPAB.
 - Would like to see the Chief of Police attend.
 - Would like to see the burglary investigators present.
 - Presentations from the NSCs.

Item #8: Adjournment 846 pm