

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2010 5:30 P.M.
SEACREST TRAINING FACILITY**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Victor Kirson
Carl Forrest
Kevin Warner
Edith Thompson
Ellen Major-Hannah
Matthew Monahan
Jeff Ritter
Matthew Hartley
Jason Dollard
Joseph Ingram

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brittany Smith

STAFF PRESENT:

Cathy Kozol, Police Legal Advisor
Anthony Strianese, Police Chief

STAFF ABSENT:

None

GUEST OTHERS:

Sergeant John Crane-Baker
Officer Eric Aronowitz
Officer Christine Braswell

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Mr. Forrest, at 5:32 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS:

Introductions were made by all Board members and staff.

3. APPROVAL AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Kirson made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Hartley. Said motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JUNE 14, 2010:

Mr. Warner made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Major-Hannah. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion of Board Objectives

Mr. Forrest stated that the purpose of the Board, as stated in Section 32.61, is to work with the Police Department on policy and resources and to serve as a conduit for the community to address their issues and problems through a cooperative effort. He asked for any ideas to get the community to address the Board with problems or ideas that would be beneficial to the Police Department.

B. Developing A Program for Condominium/HOA Security Personnel

Mr. Forrest stated that there has been smash and grab incidents in one of the communities he manages in Fort Lauderdale. Consequently, he met with a detective from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department who gave him vital information. He suggested giving a security presentation to the Board of Directors of Delray Beach.

Mr. Kirson stated that there are frequent home burglaries in the community he manages. Some burglaries are not reported because nothing is done if the person committing the crime is not caught and arrested. He does not feel that a security presentation will be helpful if the suspect is not apprehended.

Mr. Forrest stated that the presentation would educate people on suspicious events in which the Police Department should be notified that may prevent a problem.

Ms. Major-Hannah feels that teens are looting the streets because they are bored and have nothing to do. She suggested establishing the Citizens on Patrol Program (COPS).

Police Chief, Anthony Strianese, stated that the police officers do make informational presentations about awareness at Homeowners Association meetings.

Ms. Major-Hannah stated that the community should be aware that the Advisory Board exists.

Ms. Kozol advised that multiple efforts have been made to ensure that the community knows that the Board exists.

Mr. Hartley asked if there is a best practices document distributed to the Homeowners Association.

Chief Strianese stated that he is unaware of any type of best practices document distributed. He went on to add that crime statistics are researched and the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) method is utilized when appropriate. Chief Strianese also stated that a recent survey was completed and it was found that the crimes were not reported

because of minimal damage. He noted that focus will not be placed in a particular area if the crimes are not being reported.

Mr. Ritter stated that it is important to make contact with the presidents of Homeowners Associations and others and share the outcome of the meeting between Mr. Forrest and the Fort Lauderdale detective. He believes that in today's economy, it cannot be assumed that teens are looting as it could be anyone roaming the neighborhood.

Mr. Hartley stated that the Neighborhood Advisory Council is able to help with any efforts. He then added that he is a member of the Council and can facilitate any information necessary.

Mr. Warner asked what mechanism is used by the Neighborhood Advisory Council to communicate to the citizens.

Mr. Hartley stated that there is a yearly engagement in which all Homeowners Association Presidents, as well as, the Mayor attends. Information can be disseminated by other means as well.

Mr. Warner asked if preventative practices meant to minimize criminal activity is on the City's website.

Chief Strianese stated that the information is circulated on the website and is on the voice holding system at the Police Department. The information is adjusted seasonally. He also mentioned Hotspot cards that are distributed as well.

Ms. Thompson spoke of establishing informational awareness signage.

Board members decided to think of ways to make people more aware and discuss at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Kirson stated that residents do not respond to the circulars he places on doors of the properties he manages. He added that there is minimal participation at the meetings he attends. Mr. Kirson does not feel that the Police Advisory Board can help lessen the crime rate.

Mr. Forrest feels that the Board may not be able to help lessen the crime but they can make people aware.

Mr. Hartley stated that there needs to be more awareness. The Homeowners Association Presidents are more active and can help with this effort.

Chief Strianese stated that over 100 Homeowners Association Presidents were invited to a recent informational meeting. However, approximately 15 attended.

Mr. Monahan spoke of residents having a liability with the Internal Revenue Service if their home is burglarized and they have no insurance. The items stolen could be used as a tax write off as a deduction.

Ms. Major-Hannah suggested putting the liability information on informational circulars or water bills.

C. Seacrest Training Facility Tour/Display of Equipment

At this time, Board members and staff toured the Seacrest Training Facility.

7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

Discussion of Board objectives.

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:

Chief Strianese stated that crime increased 20% over the past year but has decreased and is now at 5-10%. He then noted that the department's resources constantly address transitional housing issues.

Mr. Kirson asked if actual criminals could attend the meetings and give background information on themselves.

Chief Strianese advised that criminals are unable to attend the meetings.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Forrest, Chairperson, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

The undersigned is the Secretary of the Police Advisory Board and the information provided herein is the minutes of the meeting of said Police Advisory Board of October 11, 2010, which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on _____.

Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

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S/City Clerk/Boards/Police Advisory Board/minutes