

DRAFT

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes for Thursday September 29, 2016

A Regular Session of the Piedmont Public Safety Committee was held September 29, 2016, in the City Council Chambers at 120 Vista Avenue, Piedmont. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on September 26, 2016.

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Shaffer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** Committee members: Andrea Swenson, Garrett Keating, Sue Lin, Lyman Shaffer, Police Chief Rikki Goede, Fire Chief Bud McLaren
- Absent: Ryan Gilbert, Lori Elefant, and Lynne Wright
- PUBLIC FORUM** Pat Markovich, 132 Olive Avenue, expressed concern about poorly attended landscaping at the corner of Olive and Oakland Avenue as she felt it was a potential contributor to crime due to reduced visibility.
- REGULAR AGENDA** The Committee considered these regular business items as follows:
- Minutes** Approval of Public Safety Committee minutes.
- RESOLVED, that the Public Safety Committee approves, with no amendments, its meeting minutes for July 28, 2016.
Moved by Goede, Seconded by McLaren
Ayes: Keating, Lin, Shaffer, Swenson, Goede, and McLaren.
Noes: None
Absent: Gilbert, Wright, Elefant
- Neighborhood Meetings** Chairman Shaffer reported that three Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) meetings were held in July and that 19 have been held since the initial meeting in July, 2015. He reported that a total of 12 neighborhood meetings have been held in 2016 including 9 MYN meeting, 2 basic Disaster Preparedness, and 1 Neighborhood Watch/Crime Prevention meeting. He reported that one Disaster Preparedness meeting is scheduled and that there are ongoing discussions with six potential hosts. Chairman Shaffer also reported that he had encouraged MYN hosts to conduct a drill of the plan for their individual blocks in October. The Committee discussed additional venues for soliciting meetings, and Jenifer Cavanaugh, 1691 Grand Avenue, addressed the Committee to suggest that current and prior members of City Committees and Commissions be approached as they are a group that is very committed to the welfare of the city. The Committee agreed to discuss this further.
- Get Ready, Piedmont** Chairman Shaffer reported that over 1000 Guides have been distributed as well as over 1500 Checklist documents. As discussed at the July meeting, guides and checklists were distributed at the High School/Middle School registration where 400 were distributed. He reported that the supply ran out at 4PM so there was an opportunity to distribute more. Both Shaffer and Andrea Swenson reported that people were very receptive to receiving the information. In anticipation of continued demand, an additional 500 guides and 500 checklists have been printed.

Crime Trends

Chief Goede discussed current crime trends and specifically community reaction to a recent home invasion robbery on Estates and the robberies of construction workers. She pointed out that this was part of a larger crime problem as these were carried out by persons involved in crimes in Oakland and surrounding areas. She noted that Oakland experienced over 3,000 robberies in 2015 while Piedmont had 2. The Police Department held a meeting for concerned citizens which were attended by about 20 residents. Neighborhood groups were also solicited to host Neighborhood Watch meetings but the response has been negligible as people continue to be more concerned about disaster preparedness. This is attributed to quick police response to the incident and particularly keeping the public informed.

Coffee with a Cop

Chief Goede reported on the recent Coffee with a Cop event which was held in Civic Center Park on September 12, 2016. The event was an opportunity for people to meet and talk with the officers in an informal setting. It was difficult to determine how many people attended as people came and went. However, there were generally 20 or so residents in attendance throughout the event. Follow up events will be held going forward and focused more at the schools.

AC Alert

Chief Goede updated the Committee on the status of the AC Alert system which replaced the CodeRed system earlier this year. System participation has expanded beyond that of CodeRed. Commander Lisa Douglas will be exhibiting the system at the October 15 Open House as described below.

Disaster Preparedness

The Committee reviewed the arrangements for the Fire Department Open House/Disaster event that is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on October 15.

The Fire Department will have equipment on display. It will also provide fire extinguisher and modified CPR training. The Alameda County disaster trailer is also committed and provides simulation of both earthquake and fire emergencies. There will also be a jumpy house for children.

Chairman Shaffer advised that PG&E has committed to attend with their basic gas and electricity exhibits which have been very popular in the past. He also advised that Ace Hardware would be unable to attend the event due to staffing problems. However the Piedmont Seniors will be an exhibitor.

Mr. Shaffer also advised that Support Services Commander Lisa Douglas will attend to promote the AC Alert system. She will also have crime prevention materials available.

The Public Safety Committee will staff a table to sign up potential meeting hosts as well as distribute the Get Ready, Piedmont Guide and Checklist. The Committee suggested that a separate table also promote the Grab and Go bag materials that are promoted in the Committee's disaster preparedness programs. Sue Lin suggested that water be displayed to promote the need for such storage.

Lori Elefant and Lynne Wright will be conducting safety related games for kids and adults in the Veteran's Hall with prizes awarded to the winners. The Committee strongly supported her proposal.

At the July meeting, considerable time was spent discussing food options, and Chief McLaren advised that the Fire Department has taken responsibility for that activity with hot dogs, chips, and bottled water provided at no cost.

Chairman Shaffer advised the Committee that the event has been promoted through the Piedmont Post, the Piedmonter, the Piedmont Civic Association, the Piedmont Portal, and outreach to neighborhood meeting hosts. The poster promoting the event has been placed in the banks, gas stations, and Mulberry's. The poster was included in the Committee meeting package.

Garrett Keating suggested having an exhibit involving ham radio operators with radios to be distributed to neighborhoods. After discussion by the Committee, it was agreed that this would require more information such as the supporting infrastructure and instruction for persons receiving radios, costs, and potential interference with public safety radio traffic. Mr. Keating agreed to research this further.

The Committee agreed to staff the two display tables on two hour shifts with assignments to be confirmed by Chairman Shaffer is a follow up e-mail.

School Liaison

Chief Goede advised that Captain Jeremy Bowers is working with school officials to make presentations on DUI and Distracted Driving which are particularly relevant to older school children.

Emergency Plan

Chief McLaren provided a brief overview of the City Emergency Plan. He stated that he plans to conduct an exercise of the plan in January 2017.

Announcements

The Committee acknowledged the pending retirement of Chief Goede and thanked her for her tremendous support of the Committee and service to the City.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.