



Agenda

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 15, 2008, 4:00 PM
City Council Chambers
200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM 87501

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of December 18, 2007 minutes
4. Old business:
 NONE
5. New business:
 - A. Yearly update on Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault incidents in Santa Fe, Dr. Carol Horowitz, Santa Fe Police Department
 - B. Safety in City of Santa Fe Parks, Representatives from Parks Division and Santa Fe Police Department
6. Matters from Municipal Court
 - A. Informational-Municipal Court Monthly Report-December 2007/Annual Report 2007
7. Matters from Police Chief Eric Johnson
8. Matters from Fire Chief Chris Rivera
9. Matters from Committee Members
10. Communications from the Floor
11. Adjournment

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CITY OF SANTA FE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

JANUARY 15, 2008

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MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Santa Fe, New Mexico

January 15, 2008

A scheduled meeting of the City of Santa Fe Public Safety Committee was called to order by Chair Karen Heldmeyer on this date at approximately 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll Call Indicated the Presence of a Quorum as Follows:

Councilor Dr. Karen Heldmeyer, Chair
Mr. Herb Harris, Vice-Chair
Dr. Nancy Owen-Lewis
Mr. Frank Stuto
Mr. Pete Mizrahi
Dr. Mike Mier

Members Excused:

Mr. Henry Valdez
Mr. Michael Bowen

Staff Present:

Chief Eric Johnson, Santa Fe Police Department
Deputy Chief Ben Montaña, Santa Fe Police Department
Carol Horowitz, Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Coordinator, Santa Fe Police Department
Lt. Anthony Robin, Santa Fe Police Department
Michelle Babcock, Santa Fe Police Department
Shannon Cantu, Santa Fe Police Department
Deputy Fire Chief Randy Neumann, Santa Fe Fire Department
Frank Katz, City Attorney

Others Present:

Fabian Chavez, Parks Director, City of Santa Fe
Timothy Halford, Sanctions and Solutions
Gabriel Taylor, stenographer

Approval of Agenda:

Chair Heldmeyer said that the Committee members have received emails from Albert Walker, the city prosecutor and explained that these emails and statistics would be addressed under "Matters from Chief Johnson."

Dr. Mier moved to approve the agenda. Vice-Chair Harris seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of December 18, 2007 minutes:

Vice-Chair Harris moved to approve the December 18, 2007 minutes. Mr. Mizrahi seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

New Business:

A. Yearly Update on Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Incidents in Santa Fe- Dr. Carol Horowitz, Santa Fe Police Department

Dr. Horowitz explained that she has collected data on domestic violence incidents in Santa Fe. She explained that she has supplied the Committee members with copies of the Domestic Disturbance Reports.

Dr. Horowitz said that there was an increase from 507 calls to 751 calls recorded by the end of 2007 related to domestic abuse incidents. She explained that she expects that the call numbers would rise as a result of increased awareness by the community to address the domestic abuse issues.

Dr. Horowitz explained that Esperanza Shelter has mounted a bystander program with the hope that the number of reports from bystanders witnessing and reporting incidents of abuse will increase.

Dr. Horowitz said that she would be doing some training with the Police Department to enhance the number of domestic abuse arrests, which would thereby increase the awareness of these abuse issues.

Dr. Horowitz said that there were 1,200 child witnesses to incidents of domestic abuse this year. She explained that this number is significant because the studies have shown an increased likelihood that children who witness these incidents grow up to become perpetrators or victims of domestic violence themselves.

Dr. Horowitz explained that 30% of those people who receive domestic violence services from law enforcement have made a prior call to law enforcement. Dr. Horowitz explained that almost half of the domestic abuse cases involve alcohol and/or drug use.

The Rape Crisis and Trauma Treatment Center had almost 100 more cases reported this year in the City and the County than were responded to. Dr. Horowitz explained that only about half of the reported cases were successfully prosecuted, adding that all of the sexual assault cases that were reviewed by the District Attorney's office were declined.

Dr. Horowitz said that a number of the calls had to do with suicide. Dr. Horowitz said that she has been tracking these numbers, as well as those calls that related to people who were off their regularly prescribed medications.

Chair Heldmeyer asked how many of the domestic disturbance reports involved physical violence. Dr. Horowitz said that she would have to review the numbers to track down the specific number of reports involving physical violence. Chair Heldmeyer said that this is an important distinction if the statistics are available.

Dr. Horowitz said that she has also gathered data on lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and trans-gender cases as well. She explained that the Coordinated Community Response Council has a work group dedicated to lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and trans-gender issues.

Dr. Mier asked if the report includes the county. Dr. Horowitz said that the report includes the city and the county. She said that she works with the dispatch reports from both the city and the county.

Dr. Mier asked Chief Johnson if the dispatch reports could be more informative and include specific information. Chief Johnson said that the reports do include some information.

Dr. Mier asked Dr. Horowitz how she has gathered information on suicide cases and cases relating to gay, lesbian, and trans-gender individuals. Dr. Horowitz said that she has had to interpret some statistics relating to the cases concerned with gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and trans-gender individuals.

Dr. Owen-Lewis asked why so many cases were not prosecuted. In addition, Dr. Owen-Lewis asked what defines a successful prosecution. Dr. Horowitz said that a successful prosecution is one where a perpetrator is found guilty. She added that the sentencing varies.

Deputy Chief Montaña said that the lack of successful prosecutions is often a result of witnesses who recant their stories or do not show up to court.

Vice-Chair Harris asked if it is state law that an arrest could be made if there are indications that a domestic violence incident has taken place when police have arrived on the scene. Chief Johnson said that there only has to be signs of violence in the home for police to be able to make an arrest.

Dr. Owen-Lewis asked if any of these cases are still being filed in Municipal Court. Chief Johnson said that every domestic violence report is submitted to the District Attorney's office for review.

Chair Heldmeyer asked if there are statistical seasonal trends with domestic violence incidents. Ms. Horowitz said that she does speculations in terms of seasonal trends. She added that she would continue to collect the data.

Chair Heldmeyer asked if there are still court watchers who monitor the district courts for sexual assault cases. She explained that many of individuals taking part in the court-monitoring program are members of the League of Women Voters, adding that the court

monitors do provide a regular report to the judges as well. Chair Heldmeyer suggested that these court monitors might be able to make a presentation at the next Committee meeting.

Dr. Mier asked if there is any value in gathering additional demographics information. Dr. Horowitz said that she could gather some of that demographical information related to age, but acknowledged that there would be some trouble gathering information on ethnicity.

Dr. Mier asked Chief Johnson if the police reports indicate ethnicity. Chief Johnson explained that the reports do indicate ethnicity to a degree.

Chair Heldmeyer asked what next step would be taken with all the compiled data. Dr. Horowitz said that she would be meeting with the different patrol units and doing some training in terms of collecting information and responding to victims' needs. She added that during the week of February 4th through the 8th is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Week. She explained that she and Mayor Coss would be discussing the Awareness Week on Que Suave tomorrow. Dr. Horowitz explained that the *Generation Next* section of the *New Mexican* would be publishing an article on dating violence. In addition, Dr. Horowitz explained that a teen summit on dating violence is in the works as well.

Chair Heldmeyer said that there should be trained behavioral specialists at the events during the Awareness Week. Dr. Horowitz explained that the first day of the Week's events would be dedicated to training with members of the Rape Crises Center and Esperanza Shelter staffs with the youth. The second day would be dedicated to the youth presented and practicing those skills that they learned during the training.

Dr. Horowitz said that there would be bus advertisements as well as newspaper ads that would be running during the Super Bowl weekend.

Dr. Horowitz said that she is working to establish the Safe Havens Project with the help of the Rape Crisis and Trauma Treatment Center. She explained that there would be small decals to indicate those individuals who have been properly trained in the signs, symptoms, and referrals of sexual assaults.

Dr. Horowitz said that she is working the *New Mexican* to enlist the help of local men to help with the awareness effort.

Dr. Horowitz explained that April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. She said that Rape Crisis and Trauma Treatment Center would be recognizing those detectives that work at the Center. There will be a law enforcement training with the Sheriff's office and the city's Police Department.

Dr. Horowitz said that she is working with a service-learning program through the Community College to develop a project that would take students at the Community College and place them in the courts as part of an expanded court monitors program.

B. Safety in City of Santa Fe Parks- Representatives from Parks Division and Santa Fe Police Department

Chair Heldmeyer explained that this item was placed on this meeting's agenda so that the Committee could hear what the Police Department and the Parks Division are proposing in terms of policy for safety in the city parks.

Chief Johnson said that after the shooting incident in May 2007 at Franklin Miles Park, there was an increased police presence at the city parks. He explained that after there was the increased police presence, the incidents seemed to taper off.

Chief Johnson explained that gates have been installed at Franklin Miles Park on the Camino Carlos Rey side of the park.

Chief Johnson said that the Police Department would have to go through a full cycle to see how the increased presence was working. He added that the two parks with the most incidents of misdemeanor citations being issued are Franklin Miles Park and the Salvador Perez Park.

Chief Johnson said that he has discussed the possibility starting the RFP process to establish some mobile housing units at those parks, as well as two mobile housing units for the Police Department at the MRC.

Fabian Chavez said that there have been five new gates installed at Franklin Miles Park, which has resulted in a drastic decrease in illegal dumping. He explained that the gates near the skate park and the parking lot side of Franklin Miles are being closed in the evenings.

Mr. Chavez said that the Parks Department is recommending to not have any changes made to the curfew and would like to keep the park hours as they are until after the warm weather season to see if problems increase again.

Chair Heldmeyer said that the direction of the City Council was to look at a variety of things that might help increase the safety in the city parks. She said that this time during the colder weather season could be used to draft policy suggestions to deal with the issues at the parks.

Mr. Chavez said that one of the priorities is to provide a police presence at the parks, as well as locking the park gates, and the cooperation of the Parks Department and the Police Department are all having a positive effect. He added that there have been several incidents at the MRC, Ragle Park, Camino Labo Park, and Cerro Gordo Park.

Chair Heldmeyer asked if there is any development with gate requests at any of these parks. Mr. Chavez said that there have been gate requests for Franklin Miles Park, Ragle Park, Adam Armijo Park, Patrick Smith Park, and Larragoite Park. He added that the Parks Department is locking the gate at Amelia White.

Mr. Chavez said that he would check into the status of the Wilderness Gate entrance.

Dr. Mier asked if the incidents are because of the league presence at the parks. Mr. Chavez said that the parks staff on duty during league events has said that the incidents have to do with the increased crowds of people. He added that there haven't been any complaints about the leagues. He explained that there were two incidents at the MRC this summer, where the Police responded quickly to address the issue.

Dr. Mier said that one possibility is to assess a fee for the use of the city parks, which could include security costs. Chair Heldmeyer said that there is a security presence at parks on a regular basis at this point. Chief Johnson said that the Police Department has tried to increase the patrols in the parks areas.

Chief Johnson said Pueblo Park and Rose Park have similar types of incidents and complaints related to loitering and garbage being left.

Mr. Mizrahi asked what are the time periods that the parks are being locked. Mr. Chavez said that the parks are locked at 10 p.m. during the summertime. Chair Heldmeyer added that the suggested parks curfew was tied to the time of sunset.

Chief Johnson said that the locking of the gates has seemed to make a difference with regards to the number of incidents at the parks.

Chair Heldmeyer said that if anything could be done to put measures in place. She hoped that the Parks and the Police Departments would institute them as soon as possible.

Matters From the Municipal Court:

A. Informational-Municipal Court Monthly Report- December 2007/Annual Report

Chair Heldmeyer said that the annual report has been included in the Committee members' packets

Matters From Police Chief Eric Johnson:

Chief Johnson said that the Police Department started their strategic planning process. Their presentation was given to the City Council at last night's meeting to present what the Police Department has accomplished up to this point.

Chief Johnson explained that one of the biggest goals for the Department has been filling the vacancies. He said that the Department currently has ten vacancies, but that there are six lateral officers currently in the background phase. He added that hopefully by the next budget cycle, all the Department vacancies would be filled.

Chief Johnson said that the Police Department Main Station would start undergoing construction starting January 28th.

Chief Johnson said that the Police Department has identified some offenders in several graffiti incidents.

Chief Johnson said that the Department has been able to meet some of their equipment needs with the funding from the property tax money. He explained that the Department has purchased several new cars, two of which would be on display tomorrow at the Mayor's Coffee.

Chief Johnson said that the Department is hoping to equip 75 Department vehicles with the in-car computer system. He added that all the Department officers have been equipped with digital cameras and digital recorders.

Chief Johnson said that 35 computers have been replaced in the Police Department within the past year.

Chief Johnson explained that there have been some issues regarding the impound program. He explained that Lt. Anthony Robin would be able to answer questions about the impound lot. He added that the biggest issue currently is identifying the new impound lot where vehicles would be seized and taken.

Chief Johnson said that he met with the Sheriff's staff and decided that an arrangement for a joint impound lot would not work out because of the lack of space in the Sheriff's Department's lot.

Deputy Chief Montaña said that the state would be using the property for their crime lab and their DUI impound lot.

Chief Johnson said that the Police Department has built a new evidence impound lot off of Airport Road.

Deputy Chief Neumann said that he was unsure of any immediate plans

Assistant Chief Charlie Velarde said that there had been some discussion by the Fire Department to expand their training facility with new temporary classrooms.

Chair Heldmeyer said that the city has not committed to buying the additional acreage on Siler Road. She explained that the Council has advised staff to go into negotiations for it. She added that there has been some discussion about establishing buildings to house numerous city departments and divisions.

Chief Johnson explained that with regard to the forfeiture ordinance, there are some alternative measures that the Police Department can use, such as utilizing a private contractor. Lt. Robin said that the Department found that part of this forfeiture that was

enacted could be used for program. He explained that it was apparent that there were still numerous questions.

Lt. Robin said that the city's ordinance didn't specify certain program fees. He added that companies such as Sanctions and Solutions would be responsible for setting the fees and then reimbursing the city or the Police Department for part of those monies.

Lt. Robin said that the task now is to establish a new site for the Department's impound lot.

Chair Heldmeyer asked if the lot out on Airport Road could be expanded. Chief Johnson said that he could discuss this possibility with Jim Montman.

Lt. Robin said that another question that needs to be addressed is establishing a principle for those incidents where individuals don't want to pay for the boot removal.

Lt. Robin said that storage fees also have to be established. He added that the Department should establish training for the officers as well. He explained that with the establishment of a new impound lot and new hearings officer, it would be feasible to start the forfeiture program within the next 30 to 60 days.

Mr. Katz said that there are some glitches and differences between Albuquerque's ordinance and Santa Fe's ordinance that need to be worked out. He said that his concern is that a rational defendant would likely choose to have an interlock device, instead of having a boot installed on their vehicle. He was unsure if this would work with the program that Sanctions and Solutions has.

Mr. Katz said that the interlock has been very effective. He said that the Forfeiture Ordinance was established to ensure that an interlock device be installed in the defendant's car immediately.

Timothy Halford said that before the car is released in Albuquerque, an individual must pay for the boot and storage fee for their vehicle that is set by the Albuquerque Police Department.

Mr. Halford said that the interlock program would be set up like Albuquerque has done with their program.

Mr. Stuto asked what kind of liability does the city have in case vehicles are damaged. Mr. Katz said that there would be liability and the city would need to insure against any damage.

Dr. Mier asked if Sanctions and Solutions is the only company that boots vehicles. Mr. Halford said that he is not aware of any other company doing booting services for the courts around the city or the state.

Lt. Robin said that Albuquerque Police Department does all booting services themselves without any outside assistance. He added that Sanctions and Solutions would just be helping the Santa Fe Police Department implement the program.

Chair Heldmeyer said that when the contract is eventually presented to the City Council, the Police Department would have to justify using a sole source provider for the program, as well as justifying the use of an outside contractor, as opposed to using an in-house contractor.

Dr. Mier said that there might be a thought to put a request for proposals out to legitimize the service. Mr. Halford said that Sanctions and Solutions would like the opportunity to provide the interlocking and booting services.

Chief Johnson said that the Department would be giving a presentation at the Mayor's Coffee regarding the COMSTAT program and how the Department would be addressing certain crime issues. He added that the new Department motorcycles would be arriving tomorrow morning.

Matters From Deputy Fire Chief Randy Neumann:

Deputy Chief Neumann said that the Fire Department has reached several goals within their strategic plan for the past year.

Two new fire engines will be arriving in the next couple of weeks. Several weeks after their arrival, the vehicles will be outfitted.

Deputy Chief Neumann explained that the Department has purchased a 15-passenger van for the new Academy class of 20 prospective cadets. There currently is a class of 18 cadets.

Deputy Chief Neumann said that the Fire Department would be developing some more community outreach programs to close the loop on what should be done in evacuation situations.

Chair Heldmeyer said that the numbers of calls made from outside of the city have leveled off. Deputy Chief Neumann explained that the Fire Department does still provide service out in the immediate area, just outside the city, in the county.

Deputy Chief Neumann said that the Department's call volume is on the increase. He explained that the majority of these calls are EMS related.

Deputy Chief Neumann said that there was a training cycle started this morning with the new ambulance billing company.

Mr. Mizrahi asked if the quints type models work as the older units did. Deputy Chief Neumann said that the water output on the new models goes further, and allows the Department personnel to expand their water supply as well.

Matters from Committee Members:

Mr. Mirahi asked Chair Heldmeyer if she contacted Robert Romero about the speeding indicator on Galisteo Street. Chair Heldmeyer said that she would contact Robert Romero again regarding the signal.

Chair Heldmeyer said that she would try and get Alfred Walker to attend the next Committee meeting to discuss the Nuisance House ordinance.

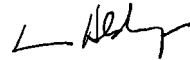
Communications From The Floor:

None

Adjournment:

Its business being completed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Approved by



Councilor Karen Heldmeyer, Chair

Submitted by



Gabriel Taylor, Stenographer