

Davis Police Department
Community Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2010

Present: Judi Adelman, Shelly Bailes, Landy Black, Clara Elias, Jodi Liederman, Mel Lewis, Janis Lott, Pam Mari, Diane McGee, Carla Pion, Scott Wiekling

Guests: Rick Gonzales (Substituting for Carlos Matos), Administrative Aide Pat Snyder

Chief's Report

Chief Black noted that we are pleased that the sales tax measure passed and the City departments won't have to implement the drafted contingency plans. City Council should be able to adopt the budget on June 15, 2010. Funding has been found to reinstate our two frozen officer positions. The Davis Police Officers Association is still in contract negotiations with the City and all seems to be going okay.

There continues to be copper wire thefts. Chief Black believes a lack of full staffing has hurt our ability to dedicate detective staff to fully investigate these thefts. The first week in June there was over \$30,000 worth of wire taken in South Davis. Other communities are being hit as well. A second armed home invasion robbery where students were the victims has occurred. It does not appear the suspects are the same in the two cases.

In spite of all the economic difficulties, crime has been down. Mel Lewis pointed out that 20 years ago there was a decrease in single parent households. Mel and Pam Mari believe this may have had an impact on lower crime now.

On June 7 – 8, Chief Black attended “Tools for tolerance for Command Staff” at the Museum of Tolerance in Southern California. He looks forward to incorporating principles they covered.

Concilio President Rick Gonzales noted that he was impressed by Chief Black and Captain Pytel's presentation to CAB last month about the Police Officer Training and Standards mandates and continuing education the officers receive in courses related to diversity and communication with an emphasis on understanding what the other person may be thinking due to their preconceptions. He reiterated that he believes it would be valuable to inform the public about Police Officer training by using newspaper articles, our website and any other means possible. Diane McGee noted that we have not published monthly police news articles as in the past. She recommended using “Davis Life Magazine” and the “Davis Enterprise” to get out positive articles.

Rick mentioned that perception changes when citizens see officers doing acts of kindness. Chief Black said he believes that even while giving a ticket, an officer can make someone feel valued and dignified. He strives to communicate embracing cultural differences while valuing order in the community.

Round Table

Hispanic Community – Rick Gonzales reported that Concilio is giving out 80 scholarships again this year. This program started in 1998 with two scholarships. A bingo fundraiser at the Oddfellows hall on Sunday, June 13th will raise money to help migrant kids this summer.

African American Community - Mel Lewis said that Davis PD administrators investigated a traffic stop incident Mel reported at the April CAB meeting. Mel wanted to acknowledge that it turned out to be a stop made by and in the jurisdiction of different law enforcement agency. Chief Black will notify that agency's chief.

Marriage Equality - Shelly Bailes reported that federal court closing arguments on overturning Prop 8 will be heard on June 16, 2010. They expect an appeal no matter which way the judge rules and that could take it to the Supreme Court.

Davis Joint Unified School District - Pam Mari reported that at the annual joint meeting of Davis City Council and DJUSD, there was conversation about how well the school/police department relations are right now. Longer time board members noted that they have never seen as much cooperation between the two entities. She said the closing of the teen center put the kids into the school/city programs. Jodi Liederman noted that kids on track as well as kids at risk are interested in the same exciting activities that are being planned, such as outdoor activities, dances, and bike repair clubs.

Mel Lewis is looking forward to getting volunteers for the protégé mentor program. The application went out with the last CAB minutes.

Jewish Community - Jodi Liederman noted that there were peaceful protests in Davis regarding Gaza Strip boat incident.

Christian Community – Scott Wieking reported that he was contacted by the Police Department about volunteers helping with graffiti abatement. A representative from Davis Public Works came to speak to group of 10 volunteers who are going to tackle this problem. He also expects approximately 500 people to hear about the DJUSD protégé mentor program this week.

Downtown Business Association – Janis Lott noted that businesses should always report graffiti to the Graffiti Hotline at 757-5600. The Police track it and Public Works staff organizes clean up, if not on private property. She shared a DDBA communication saying that Davis Waste Removal will replace affected dumpsters and Sacramento Rendering Company will also replace their bins.

Janis attended the Police Department Swearing-In and Awards Ceremony on June 2nd and said it great to see the crowd in attendance and the awards that took place. These ceremonies take place once or twice a year and are open to the public.