

Lakeview Crime Prevention District Meeting

2/20/25

Time: 6:00 p.m.

St. Dominic Rectory, 775 Harrison Avenue, NOLA 70124

Opening

The meeting started at approximately 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Val Cupit, Reid Raymond, Kevin Avin, Graham Ryan, Nancy Lytle, Brian Anderson, Chris Beacher and Ann LeBlanc. Richard Bordelon, Sudi Joint, and Sgt. Benjamin were also present.

Motion to approve minutes: Val moved, Brian seconded, and the motion carried.

Crime report

In February there were 689 crimes citywide, 57 in the 3rd and 4 in Lakeview. There were two auto burglaries, 1 auto theft, and 1 burglary of unoccupied residence. Three of the 4 crimes have been solved. Year to date 10/12 crimes have been solved. Solved does not mean arrests yet but knowledge of suspect. The burglary occurred on 34th street and involved a stolen safe with contents totaling \$300K. There were 1066 incidents with 34 calls for service. There were 266 traffic stops and only 5 drivers were cited with 10 tickets. Crime is down in every category so far with 83% decrease overall. There has been 70% clearance rate so far this year. Sgt. Benjamin credits the decrease in crime to increase police visibility, increase stops and DA and judges keeping repeat criminals in jail. There is a new quality of life officer, John Wild.

Administrative Agenda

Chris and Reid gave a report on technology committee. We have spent \$157,976.21 for cameras and repairs since 2017. In 2024, camera program was supposed to end (company putting footage on cloud). Now, they are saying December 2025. Question is whether we pay for service because they could pull the plug before that date. Real Time Crime Center ("RTCC") still has access to footage. Chris stated that he has asked contact if we can continue through the year with storage until we find solution. If we lose I-cloud storage, RTCC will not have access. (RTCC works when there is a call to 911, dispatcher can signal Real Time and tell them to pull up camera nearby). Right now 26/53 of the cameras are offline for various reasons. We can install memory cards in the existing cameras but will not have RTCC access. There is a company, Genetec who can give us access to RTCC but we would have to buy new cameras. Conservative estimate for same is \$77,698. This will probably require a public bid because it is over \$60K. An idea was floated to include obligation of city to fund new cameras and run them through new cooperative agreement. Discussion also was whether we needed cameras since so many people have their own ring cameras, etc. We may want to rely more on License Plate Readers. Ultimately, we discussed taking no action and getting more information from Sgt. Hickman and Ross Bourgeois to see what has been the actual use of our cameras in the last two years.

Reid also reported that post cards are going out regarding benefits of LCPD to the tune of \$6700.

Financial report

Sudi reported receiving all invoices from the city through December 14, 2024. Sgt. Benjamin reviewed them. Total cost for patrols through this date has been \$969,325.97. Disputed millage is \$126,373.53. We are over budget if we include disputed millage. Under, if we do not. Sudie is asking auditors if we need a variance. Auditors say we cannot take disputed millage off financial documents. Sudi estimates an additional \$56K for remaining cycles through 2024.

According to balance sheet, we have \$627K in bank account. Total disputed milage from 2020-2024 is \$485,478.65.

Motion to Adjourn

Ann moved to adjourn, Kevin seconded, and all were in favor.