



Montclair Safety and Improvement Council (MSIC)

A Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC)

Public Meeting Minutes

Thursday February 6, 2014 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm

Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive, Oakland California

www.montclairsic.org

The meeting was chaired by Sandra Pohutsky on behalf of Jill Broadhurst and was attended by approximately 30 people.

MSIC Steering Committee members attending:

Nancy Havassy
Barry Klezmer
Doug Mosher
Sandra Pohutsky, acting Secretary
Josh Shaw
Michael Tigges

Steering Committee members unable to attend:

Jill Broadhurst, Chair
Jim Clardy, Treasurer
Peggy Esposito
Laurel Strand

WELCOME

The Montclair Safety and Improvement Council (MSIC) is the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) for Oakland Police Beat 13Z and focuses on crime prevention, safety and Montclair improvements for residents. Public meetings are held four times a year. There are two Yahoo! Groups which all Montclair residents should subscribe to. MSIC Alert is only for public safety issues; MSIC Discussion is for other matters of interest to Montclair residents. To subscribe, go to www.montclairsic.org and follow the detailed directions on the home page. It is a Yahoo! Group but it is not necessary to have a Yahoo! email account to participate.

There are two new MSIC steering committee members who will both focus on beautification: Peggy Esposito who was recently featured, along with her husband John, in Libby Schaaf's newsletter, and Josh Shaw, who is a co-leader (with Jill Broadhurst) of the Mountain Blvd. Railroad Mural Project.

OAKLAND POLICE PROBLEM SOLVING OFFICER, JASON TRODE

Office Trode is a sworn, uniformed officer focusing on police beats 13 X, Y and Z. Officer Trode asked attendees to introduce themselves to the people sitting next to them and tell them where they live. "You have just made my job easier" he said. It is vitally important that neighbors know each other in order to watch out for each other and to know when they are home, when something seems amiss in the neighborhood, and suspicious people or cars which may be burglars casing homes.

There were eight home burglaries in the last 30 days, compared to 20 home burglaries in the same period last year. Car crimes in Montclair include break-ins in residential areas, six cars stolen in the last 30 days and many cars stolen in other cities which are dumped in Montclair. (If a car is left on the street for more than 72 hours, call Abandoned Auto detail 238-6030.)

Answering questions, Office Trode said that we should call Oakland Police non emergency number 777-3333 to report aggressive panhandlers, car alarms going off and any suspicious persons, including as complete description as possible, especially the direction in which they are walking or driving.

OAKLAND POLICE PROBLEM SOLVING OFFICER, GUNTHER LEE

Officer Lee, a sworn, uniformed officer focusing on adjacent Beat 12 in Rockridge, was introduced; he had been instrumental in the arrest of armed robbers in Rockridge.

CAPTAIN ANTHONY TORIBIO, OAKLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Captain Anthony Toribio, a 24-year veteran of the Oakland Police Department, is the commander of our police area, Area 2, Oakland Hills and North Oakland, which includes police beats 8 to 14. The OPD website—oaklandpolice.com—has a link where you can see the beat boundaries and identify which beat you live on. Most residents of Montclair are in beat 13Z.

Captain Toribio reported that he had received a call from a Montclair resident saying that she had reported a suspicious person and that Officer Trode was at her home within 10 minutes; she complimented Officer Trode for his quick work.

It is important to make residents aware that all solicitors must have permits from the City of Oakland and any other solicitor should be reported to OPD non emergency 777-3333. The

social network nextdoor.com is being used by OPD and may be used to post which groups, if any, have permits to solicit.

Robberies (person to person, usually on the street):

There were three robberies in January: on January 3 and 4, two African American men approached female Asians who were taking things out of their cars and robbed them. The first occurred on Castle Park Way and the second on Banning Dr. On January 22, two men (Hispanic and Asian) grabbed the purse of a female white on Summerset Rd. Victims suffered minor injuries. All three robberies occurred between 8 pm and 9 pm.

Burglaries (entering a house or car):

Our Area 2 has a burglary investigator now who is already connecting the dots of burglaries. There was recently an excellent, very clear home surveillance video of a burglar committing his crime. And this helped with the identification and subsequent arrests. Videos from home surveillance cameras are extremely valuable to investigators and helps prove the case at trial.

Captain Toribio has directed that marked police cars are parked at several of the main access points to Montclair, Broadway Terrace neighborhood, Hiller Highlands, etc. He directed officers to call for a technician to go out on all burglaries (residential and commercial) to lift fingerprints. He wants residents to report suspicious people and to consider installing home security cameras. Here is a link for helping pick out the right surveillance system:

<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/cityadministrator/documents/form/oak031867.pdf>.

He wants business owners to keep their security cameras in good working order, pointed in the right direction, and train employees on how to download video. Officer Trode has been working with Montclair Village businesses on this matter.

To convict a burglar, there must be good evidence that he/she committed the crime; good evidence includes videos of burglars in the act and fingerprints.

OPD Staffing Level

Over 100 new Oakland police officer trainees are in various stages of training now. A recent class graduated 54 of the original 55 trainees, an extremely high completion rate. Captain Toribio said that an introductory week was added before the start of the academy during which time the trainees receive an orientation to the Department and what will be expected of them during the academy.

In September, approximately 25 new officers will begin training with the Alameda County Sheriff Department, then complete training with Oakland Police Department.

There are now 624 sworn officers and approximately 5 leave or retire each month. The immediate staffing goal of 700 sworn officers is needed to eliminate the mandatory overtime. Oakland city budget provides for 697 officers as of July 1, 2014. The second OPD goal is to fill empty positions in other areas such as traffic, vice, investigations, etc.

An attendee asked what will happen if the Measure Y tax is not renewed by voters in November. (Measure Y has been a controversial tax which splits the tax money between Oakland Police Department, Oakland Fire Department, and nonprofit groups for violence prevention.) Captain Toribio was not sure and speculated that the Problem Solving Officers positions will be eliminated and the officers will be reassigned to Patrol.

Police Consultant

Robert Wasserman, of the Bratton Group, which evaluated crime strategies in Oakland, will return once more to issue a final report.

Staying Informed

1. Sign up at NextDoor.com to connect with neighbors. Area 2 is using NextDoor to provide information on public safety.
2. Sign up at Nixle.com to receive crime and other public safety alerts from OPD
3. Follow Area 2 on Twitter: area2opd

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR OAKLAND HILLS RESIDENTS

Remarks by Doug Mosher

- a. Montclair Organized Neighborhoods (MON) – about 95 organized neighborhoods in Montclair, representing about 75% of the neighborhoods. Goal is 100% organization.
- b. Size of a MON group ranges between 30 and 50 homes
- c. Oakland Hills will be cut off in emergency so we must become self-reliant for 7 to 10 days
- d. Know your neighbors
- e. Take free training from CORE
- f. Subscribe to two MSIC yahoo groups

CORE Training remarks by Michael Tigges

If at least 15 neighbors sign up for CORE training, CORE will come to your neighborhood

CORE Training remarks by Susan Lockwood

Explained series of CORE I, CORE II and CORE III.

Residents completing CORE III must renew training every 2 years for liability protection.

CORE Training remarks by Nina, CORE coordinator

We should have “go bags” of supplies in our home, office and car.

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 NEWS, LISA RUHLAND

Accepting nominations for "Local Heroes."

OAKLAND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UPDATE, PATRICIA ROSE

NSC update.

MOUNTAIN BLVD. RAILROAD MURAL UPDATE, JOSH SHAW AND ARTIST ANDREW JOHNSTONE

Approved by City of Oakland, in fundraising phase. Discussion of historical accuracy of street car to be featured.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Residents are invited to attend the next MISC meeting on Thursday **June 5, 2014**, at 7 pm, Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive, Oakland California.