

Latino Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes for:

August 5, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by committee chair May Martinez-Hendershot.

Those present were: Robert Dominguez, Victory Outreach; Fabian Areola, GPD Intern; Sgt. Dennis Lobato, GPD; Cpt. Mark Jones, GPD; Joe Melendez, SASA; Cpt. Mike Savage; Joe Perez, Community Rep.; Loretta Duran, A Kids Place; Adolph Diaz, MCFC; Sandi Elder, City Council; Chief Jerry Garner, GPD; Maribel Talamantes, COG; May Martinez-Hendershot, WCPP; C.J. Archibeque, COG; Vania Kacir, SAVA; Teri Gutierrez, GPD.

Chief Garner asked Sgt. Lobato to introduce Fabian Areola, who has been an intern for the Police Department this summer. Fabian is a senior at University Schools High School. He completed 180 hours with the police department. Fabian's plans for the future include joining the Marine Corp with a follow on career in law enforcement, maybe with the Greeley PD.

Sandi Elder would like to see something about Fabian in the Greeley Tribune.

Chief's Report – A little past mid-year and Part 1 crimes are up 28%. The biggest increases are in sexual assaults, theft and auto theft. Some reasons for the rise; there are one or more professional auto theft rings, more transients, more mentally ill people, and a number of parolees in the area. Greeley has a rather large methamphetamine problem. Since the first of the year, there have been a couple dozen busts of people involved in some way, with meth sales. Northeastern Colorado is a major area of methamphetamine trafficking. All of this has impacted the rising crime rates.

Injury accidents are way down along with the total number of accidents is down. The distracted driving ordinance is now being enforced, that may have something to do with the fewer number of accidents.

The department is testing the second camera vendor for the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) pilot program. Nothing extraordinary has come out of the use of the BWC program. The cameras have been used in use of force issues. The program, as a whole, will be looked at in October and the findings will be taken to city council for discussion and decisions.

NAT program – Sgt. Dennis Lobato – Residential Crime Prevention

Criminals have become more creative in how they break into homes and cars. Keep your "safe zone" your home, safe.

Ways to secure your home/property:

- Deadbolt locks on your doors
- Good locks on your windows (especially in the basement)
- Outside lighting – motion lighting is ideal

- Storing things inside or out of sight
- Never hide your keys outside your home
- Keep bushes/trees trimmed (make it hard for criminals to hide near your house)
- Lock your garage door
- Don't store your garage door openers in your car (Crooks are looking for those openers in cars)
- Engrave your property
- Keep pictures of your property
- Rent a safety deposit box for heirloom property
- Disconnect/disengage your garage door when you're out of town
- Video doorbells – gives you the ability to talk with a person from wherever you are with an app on your cell phone.

The Neighborhood Watch program is a very good program. There are 116 groups at this time active in Greeley. The Police Department has signs to announce there is a program in your area. Officers keep in touch with the groups on a regular basis.

The Police Department is a safe zone for online sales. You can use the PD parking lot or lobby to meet people instead of having them come to your home or you going to their home.

Roundtable –

Sandi Elder – City Council is looking for two volunteers for the planning commissioner board. The City is deep in budget planning for 2017-2018.

Adolph Diaz – At the last meeting Adolph asked for a bike for one of his students. Officer Fogue got the bike and it has been given to the student. Thank you to Officer Fogue and the Greeley PD.

Cpt. Savage – One of the GPD officers went and bought a new bike for a little girl who got her bike stolen and the little girl's family could not afford to buy her a bike.

Vania Kacir – SAVA Soiree will be held September 30th at the Embassy suites in Loveland, \$75 per person. SAVA is looking for an Executive Director.

Loretta Duran– A Kid's Place is holding their Super Hero Run on September 10th at St. Michaels from 7-11 a.m. Food, drinks and t-shirts will be offered to those that sign-up.

Joe Perez – as a member of the city of Greeley human relations commission – The commission expresses their concern and willingness to support and bring groups together for talks with the police.

Is there any way to schedule code enforcement to work at night to meet the needs of people with barking dog problems? (Captain Savage following up)

Cpt. Savage – The last co-defendant is on trial now for a murder case that occurred in August of 2013. The detectives put a good case together and they have worked very hard for the last three years to get this resolved.

School Resource Officers have been a downtown presence on bikes.

Calls for service have increased by 13%. It's a continuous battle to keep things covered.

Joe Melendez – Schools start back on August 19th.

Cpt. Jones – The hiring process is on-going. Six candidates will be going to the academy in September.

Sgt. Lobato – Citizens Police Academy will be held starting September 8th at the Rodarte Center.

C.J. Archibeque – The Rodarte kid's summer program is over. There were 600 kids this summer coming from all over Greeley.

Robert Dominguez – The recovery program is going strong – there are three parolees in the program at this time. The program is graduating six men in the ministry now. There are 22 beds in the men's program which is a very strict, structured program. Robert oversees 13 recovery homes in multiple states. The Jobs of Hope banquet will be held September 27th.

Maribel Talamantes – The CEO office is very busy. There are three cultural awareness trainings set-up for city employees in the coming months.

May Martinez-Hendershot – May is currently serving on the board for Partners Mentoring Youth. Volunteers are needed badly. If anyone is interested in mentoring in the middle schools, please contact May.

Prevention Partners is in the process of scheduling two fall strengthening families programs.

Chief Garner – Thank you all for what you do in this committee and in the community.

May – We need to remember that this committee's job is to advise the Chief of what's going on in the community.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:34 a.m. by May Martinez-Hendershot.