

Latino Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes for:

September 2, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by council member Sandi Elder.

Those present were: Sgt. Dennis Lobato, GPD; Cpt. Mark Jones, GPD; Joe Melendez, SASA; Cpt. Mike Savage; Joe Perez, Community Rep.; Adolph Diaz, MCFC; Sandi Elder, City Council; Chief Jerry Garner, GPD; Maribel Talamantes, COG; Vania Kacir, SAVA; Inacio Ramos, Community Rep.; Mike Salazar, USFS; Teri Gutierrez, GPD.

Sandi Elder chaired this meeting for May Martinez-Hendershot, as she was under the weather.

Congressman Buck has invited Sandi Elder to participate in a Latino Advisory Committee. She's hoping for good things to come out of this.

Chief Garner – The police department is completing the 3rd and final body-worn camera testing period. After this is complete, information will be discussed and compiled. The information will then be taken to the City Council for decisions and planning.

The Fire Department/EMS and the Police Department are experiencing a huge call load for the transient population. The different departments will be looking at the increase of calls and if there are alternative means so that emergency personnel are not tied up so much.

Sandi Elder – if dispatch could screen the calls with more information – that could help.

Chief Garner – Dispatch personnel are not qualified to discern calls so they send everything through.

The Fire Chief and Chief Garner are going to work together and try to come up with a way so that everyone is taken care of in the proper manner.

The Citizens Police Academy has started, Sgt. Lobato is running this program again. It is being held at the Rodarte Center this time around.

The City is deep into budget season. Each department is cutting their budget by half of 1%.

The Police Department is looking to protect the mental and emotional health aspect of the officers. The City would like to start offering officers the option of having a mental health check each year.

Round-Table

Sandi Elder – Council is looking forward to the Body-Worn Camera discussion.

The Greeley Weld Airport is receiving some federal money, \$5.68 million dollars for some rehab at the airport.

September 27th will be the Jobs for Hope Banquet at Christ Community, it's free. Chief Garner will present a gang member who has been rehabilitated.

Maribel Talamantes, COG – CEO is very busy getting information out to people. Right now the CEO office is working with all the different departments in the city to help with community outreach.

Sgt. Lobato – Citizens Police Academy has begun its 10 week program. This program gives people a good idea of the police department as a whole.

NAT is very busy with the community and the transient hot spots.

Vania Kasir – September 30th at the Embassy Suites is the SAVA Soiree from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. tickets are \$75.00.

Joe Perez – Congressman Buck's committee is very much needed.

Sandi Elder will give the Congressman Joe's name as being interested in being on the committee.

Joe Perez - Feeling stress within the community regarding the political immigration reform. People are feeling uneasy and a Community discussion may be needed and helpful.

Cpt. Savage – The Operations side is very busy this summer – there have been two human trafficking cases that have come to their conclusion.

Serious crime has increased, most of it is in the realm of theft/larceny. The department is working on and making good progress on an auto theft ring.

On the positive side, a couple of late shift street officers got a late night basketball game going. It's one way of officers connecting with people in a positive way.

Joe Melendez – School is up and running for the new school year. Please learn about ballot issue 38. It's meant to raise money for ALL schools in the community.

Cpt. Jones – On paper the department is down by only two officers, however, six new hires are cadets at the academy and some are still in training at the department.

Nacho Ramos – Working on getting grant money for Habitat for Humanity.

Adolph Diaz – Thanked the PD for all that they do for the community.

The migrant kids are doing volunteer work which has turned into paid positions for some of them. It takes the whole community to make great things happen.

Mike Sanchez – Forest Service is looking for trail cameras to help fight off vandalism. Fire season hasn't been too bad in Colorado this season.

Sandi Elder – If anyone would like a special program presented or have someone speak at a meeting, contact Teri and she will help you.

Chief Garner – Each morning the Chief receives an email of what has happened the night before. There are extremely dangerous people out there and the officers are doing a great job.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 a.m.