

Lakeview Crime Prevention District Meeting

October 24, 2019

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: St Dominic Rectory Meeting Room

Freddy Yoder called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM. Roll was called. Board members in attendance were Reid Raymond, Melissa Lessell, Ann Leblanc, Martin Landrieu, Freddy Yoder, Nancy Lytle, and Jeb Bruneau. A quorum was confirmed. Also, in attendance were; board accountant Larry Jacobi, board attorney Richard Bordelon, and Sgt. Young of the NOPD who would be presenting the reports for Sgt. Benjamin who was unable to attend. State Representative Stephanie Hilferty was also present as were several members of the public.

Approval of Minutes: Freddy Yoder called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September board meeting that had been distributed to the board earlier in the week. The motion to approve those minutes was made by Martin Landrieu, and it was seconded by Ann Leblanc. A vote was held and the motion passed with all voting in favor, none opposed.

Board accountant Larry Jacobi passed out a document from the City of New Orleans. This document confirmed the information regarding the LCPD board's banking account, and other ACH information such as who can sign. The city is moving to ACH payments only and this form is required in order to do so. It was required to be signed by Brian Anderson. Mr. Jacobi requested a motion from the board to approve document as completed. The motion to approve was made by Reid Raymond, it was seconded by Melissa Lessell. There was no additional discussion. A vote was held and the motion passed with all voting in favor, none opposed.

Crime Report: Sgt. James Young reviewed the current month's Crime Report (attached). City-wide, violent crime was down, however the one sticking point was auto-burglary which was up city-wide sixty-eight percent. Three vehicles were stolen in Lakeview, all using either the key, or key-fob in the vehicles. Two of those vehicles have been recovered, one case has been cleared by a warrant. Lakeview also experienced eighteen auto burglaries this month. Most of those cases occurred the mornings of the first and the seventeenth. Forty-five vehicles were targeted and the perpetrators used forced entry in a significant number of those cases. Security camera footage showed that in many cases they did not even attempt to see if the handle was unlocked before breaking the window with a window punch. Officers have leads which may lead to future arrests. An arrest was also made in last month's homicide that occurred near Canal and City Park Avenue..

Response times were also reviewed. (attached) The average response times for Lakeview officers for October was five minutes and fifty-four seconds. Other units were eight minutes and thirty-two seconds. Sgt Young answered questions from the public about firearms being left in vehicles. He identified targeted items in auto-burglaries as being cash, firearms, car keys and key-fobs. He reported that six hundred and seventy-one firearms were stolen in Orleans Parish year-to-date and recommended that these items and all valuables not be left in vehicles. Sgt. Young answered several questions from board members. He explained that the collapsed building downtown was affecting

police man-power in the third district. While it was more in the past, it is now back down to only taking away one officer per shift. Sgt. Young concluded by reviewing tips to reduce crime.

Financial Report: Larry Jacobi reviewed the financial statements that had been passed out to the board. The financial position of the board is the same as it was last month. There have been no receipts received from the city since the last meeting. The city has stopped sending out checks until they can do it by ACH. Cash-on-hand is three-sixty-seven-six-sixty-five and accounts payable is forty-four-five-ninety-nine as reported by Mr. Jacobi. There are approximately one and a half patrol cycle billings that we have not yet received from the city, and there are still five patrol cycles remaining after we pay the forty-four thousand. The forty-four thousand goes through the end of October. In November and December, there would be five more cycles. After everything was paid at the end of the year, we would be left with approximately one hundred & fifty-three thousand dollars. Larry Jacobi reminded the board that on December 31, the board should have approximately what they have now, if the cycles remain as they have been. This number would be affected by the amount of what the cameras cost the board between now and the end of the year. Mr. Jacobi was cautiously optimistic that the board would be left with enough cash on hand at the end of the year to get through the first three months of next year. Martin Landrieu questioned the city's decision to stop the process before going to ACH and he suggested that a date should have been set in the future to switch to ACH, thereby giving everyone a chance to get their forms in and have everything set up in time for the date to switch. Mr. Jacobi reminded the board that the parcel fee would be increasing in January. The patrol vehicle that was originally budgeted for the end of this year, but that was put off, could be purchased around March of next year.

Public Comments: A member of the public had a question regarding the camera program but chose to wait to ask until the camera program update.

Crime Camera Update: Reid Raymond passed out copies of a contract that would be entered into with a contractor, pending approval by board attorney Richard Bordelon. He reviewed the terms of the contract with the board. Freddy Yoder asked that because of the mis-information being spread on social media regarding the camera, if this contact could be handled in executive session, but Richard Bordelon stated that it could not. Reid Raymond showed the board a link on the LCPD website that included all of the details regarding the crime camera program and that this should address some of that mis-information. He reviewed both the initial contact costs as well as the re-occurring costs. The initial contact amount which included one month's costs was the re-occurring monthly cost was twenty-three thousand, nine-thirty-five. It included the purchase and installation of thirty-five cameras and one month's service. The total of the re-occurring amount for twelve months which includes the connection fee to the Real-Time Camera Center was also reviewed. A member of the public had a question about how the monitoring of the cameras would be done. It was explained by members of the board that they would be monitored around the clock 24/7 by actual police officers. Larry Jacobi gave a break-down of what makes up the contract amount.

Freddy Yoder reviewed his understanding that once everything was in place, that the total annual re-occurring costs for thirty-five cameras would be two-hundred and sixteen dollars per camera, or approximately a total of seven-thousand five hundred dollars per year for all of the cameras. Reid Raymond suggested paying quarterly. Freddy also recommended paying the three-fifty-nine for a performance bond, he felt that it was a worthy cost. A Melissa Lessell mad a motion to authorize the

purchase of a performance and payment bond for this project at the cost of three hundred and fifty dollars. It was seconded by Martin Landrieu. Martin suggested it may be slightly more and he suggested that the amount authorized be established at five-hundred dollars. There was some discussion, a vote was held and the motion passed with all in favor. Martin Landrieu made a motion to accept Reid's recommendation for how the payment process will work on the contract that was presented and was the third box-item on the sheet that Reid had provided. Martin Landrieu's motion was seconded by Jeb Bruneau. After some discussion, a vote was held, and the motion passed with all in favor. Freddy Yoder and the other board members present thanked Reid for his efforts with the camera program. Mr. Yoder complained about false information that was on social media about the LCPD crime camera program. He said that it attempts to make the people who are working hard to provide a good product to the community look bad. He would like to see the board find a way to get it's own input into social media. He expressed that those who are slamming the board do not know what they are talking about and then people who read that garbage start to believe the person doing the talking is maybe making sense. He added it wasn't fair to the board. He felt that at some point the board needs to make a public statement describing the camera program. He added that perhaps that voice should be the board president, but that the good work of board members such as Reid's needs to get out. Jeb Bruneau reminded the board that LCPD does have a Facebook page and that perhaps that might be the avenue to do what Freddy had suggested.

Richard Bordelon reminded the board members that their ethics course must be completed by December 31st. A motion to adjourn was made by Martin Landrieu, and it was seconded by Melissa Lessell. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15pm.