

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) - Minutes
Thursday, July 9, 2015
Rockridge Library, College & Manila
General Public: 7:30-9:00PM

NCPC:

Michael Ubell – Chair
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
Molly Singer - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Mike Ubell opened the meeting at 7:33 PM and introduced the officers and Chris Jackson, the manager of the Rockridge District Association. OPD personnel present included Officers Jurgens (CRO beat 13), Hutzol (CRO beat 12), and Bui (CRO beat 14), and Patricia Rose, the Neighborhood Services Coordinator.

Due to a later schedule conflict, the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council presented first.

North Oakland Restorative Justice Council

Malachi Scott introduced himself as a co-founder of the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council. He began by asking, what are they doing in North Oakland. He asked the room for a definition of restorative justice; Karen Ivy said, using the community to face transgressors and deal with transgressions. Restorative justice is very rich in Oakland. It represents a paradigm shift, not social control but social engagement. In the criminal justice system you ask: what happened, who did it, what do they deserve? Under restorative justice you ask: what happened, whose obligations are these, how do we right the wrong. Restorative justice focuses on the person or people who have been harmed and on the person who did the harm: hurt people hurt people. Abusive households, alcoholic parents, and situations like that produce hurt people, who hurt other people.

The North Oakland Restorative Justice Council is community based: they try to deal with community issues locally if possible. They sponsor monthly peace & justice community walks; they raise money for families of victims. They have a block party grant – to support memorial celebrations for people who were killed, but also to get people outside in the community again. People recognize and join the Council. They have just last month begun holding a regular circle for people who have lost loved ones: the Healing Circle.

They're working now with Capt. Allison on alternatives to youth incarceration. They will engage with low-level offenders rather than send them to jail. Right now about 13,000 youth are incarcerated in California – that's too many people locked up. The US has 5% of the world population, and 25% of the world prison population. Solving this goes deeper than just jobs: you have to solve identity issues. Not everybody succeeds.

Malachi said that as a youth, he committed a violent offense at 15, and served 15 years in prison. He's been out for 2 years, and now has a full-time job. He was in the Victim Offender Education Group at San Quentin – a very intense experience, which led him to understand how he impacted the community. He stayed in the group for 5 years. He hadn't realized the implications of what he'd done. He learned empathy; it isn't instinctive. He now works at the North Oakland Restorative Justice Council.

Malachi introduced Cedric, who told the group he went to the juvenile hall for shooting a gun in class. He spent 9 months in juvenile hall, then 11 months in a group home. He got a job; he got his GED; he also got in trouble again. He now realizes it affects his mother when he goes to jail. He's trying to do the job every day; he said he has a lot of stress. It was visibly hard for him to talk. He grew up on this side of town, now lives on the east side. He finds it hard to live, he can't go to the store without police following him.

Malachi reported that after juvenile hall, Cedric joined the Ralph Bunche re-entry circle. That group supported him to get his GED. North Oakland Restorative Justice Council is supporting

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

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Cedric now, to make him accountable, as in for speaking to the community; they're also trying to get him a job.

Q: How do you work?

A: "Master mind Max," who isn't here, has community contacts, particularly at Bethany Baptist Church. They try to engage business owners to give people a chance at a job. Tragedies happen sometimes.

Q: How do you measure effectiveness of what you do?

A: We're still collecting data. At Ralph Bunche High School, suspensions are down 87%, they use circles to deal with disruption instead of suspending people. The city has adopted restorative justice.

A resident requested we discuss restorative justice further. She said she doesn't believe in the prison system. She got involved with restorative justice because a young man on her block was stealing packages off porches, nobody wanted him to go to juvenile hall - they wanted to sit with him and hear him apologize.

Citizen input to priorities

Mike Ubell asked if there are any issues the police should attend to.

The only response was a resident who asked if there was more crime over the 4th of July, so we went directly to OPD reports.

OPD Reports beat 12

Officer Hutzol: There was no uptick in crime over July 4. The police did a maximum deployment over holiday weekend, all leaves were cancelled. They cracked down hard on illegal fireworks.

Auto burglaries are the number one issue in beat 12 – since last NCPC meeting, 15 auto burglaries were reported, mostly along College Ave. Last year during this period there were 12. Surveillance operations reduced opportunistic crime and crew-based auto theft, so theft is now down to individual opportunistic crimes. There were 4 residential burglaries, the same as this time last year. Robberies and other crimes against the person are still down. Beat 12 doesn't have much trouble with murder or rape. Last year this time, we had 2 armed robberies; this year there was 1 strong-arm robbery (not armed). Using a gun to rob people now gets you more time in jail, so gun crime is down. Auto theft is on an uptick – people are actually towing cars away instead of hotwiring them. There were 6 auto thefts in June to July, up 2 from last year. Violent crime is down, and property crime is up, in almost a 1:1 ratio. Auto burglaries have moved from parking lots back to College Avenue again.

<i>Crimes, Beat 12Y since last NCPC meeting</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>Same period 2014</i>
Robberies	1 (strong-arm)	2 (armed)
Auto burglaries	15	12
Auto thefts	6	2
Residential burglaries	4	4

Q: Did they find the guys who did the Locksley burglaries? How do you catch people who target an area?

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A: One guy is identified and linked to Locksley series, a warrant is out for him. They got photographs of him. We try to push information out, using social media, Nixle, NextDoor. Berkeley is also after the same guy. Most people doing crime stay within the same 20 block radius.

Q: How do you handle inter-jurisdictional sharing?

A: It's better for violent crime. A lot of property crime was marginalized by prop. 47. The criminals sometimes go to Las Vegas. Police agencies *do* work together, especially on violent crimes. Robberies, armed or strong-arm, get publicized around as much as possible.

A resident reported that they saw a guy on the roof of their garage, able to see into houses on 3 sides, in the middle of the night. Is that usual? Also at quarter of 11 PM someone knocked on the door and asked for the owner by name, and 15 minutes later someone was standing on the porch. They learned later the person had burgled the garage first.

Officer Hutzol replied no, that's very unusual. Usually burglars are non-violent, and most burglaries happen in the morning 10 AM – 1 PM. It could even be a 5150. It's an extremely unusual incident; if it happens again, call it in.

[Ed. Note: A 5150 is "a person suspected to have a mental disorder that makes him or her a danger to him- or herself, a danger to others, and/or gravely disabled." *California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC)*]

Chris Jackson suggested we talk about the homeless uptick, noting that homeless camps have lots of drugs.

Mike Ubell reported that last Sunday, he saw about 6 police cars down by FROG parks on Hudson, and asked Officer Hutzol what was going on. Officer Hutzol reported that it was a homeless camp fighting another homeless camp for territory, using pepper spray. One group has now moved onto CalTrans property. He now can get signed letters that allow him to arrest campers from CalTrans property, which he couldn't previously do.

Chris Jackson urged that if you see an encampment, call Public Works, or do a SeeClickFix report. That generates a ticket for the homeless outreach people. They're sweeping this area twice a month.

Q: What about the guy who walks down College screaming at 8 AM?

A: It may be Shane Powell, but there's now another guy, a meth addict, who may do that. There isn't really much you can do, psych holds are only temporary. We try to get them into housing but they have to cooperate. If they don't cooperate, the police can remove them for 12/24 hours, then they're back. People feed them, and they don't get pepper-sprayed often; so they stay here. A lot of homeless re vets, we try to get the VA out to help them. Some of them don't want to be in housing. Please call non-emergency when you see people like this, so we can get some statistics on it, and direct some resources.

OPD Reports beat 13

Officer Jurgens said there's not much to report on 13. There were 4 auto burglaries since the last meeting versus 7 in the same period last year. Residential burglaries were 1 versus 3. There were zero robberies. All the auto burglaries and stolen vehicles in beat 13 are happening at Temescal Park.

Announcements

National Night Out August 4 – sign up for block parties. For more information or to register visit Oakland's National Night Out website <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/nno> or call 510-238-3091.

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The Fire Dept. is hiring firefighters, and needs civilians to sit on interview boards. Interviewers must attend a half-day training, then the interviews are an all-day process, 8-5. If you are interested in serving as an interview panelist or know someone else who might be, please contact **Human Resources Management** at **510-238-3112** or e-mail recruitment@oaklandnet.com. Please respond by July 24, 2015.

CORE training dates are [now available for June – September](#).

NCPC Priorities for July 2015

Under new OPD rules, each beat is allowed a single priority, instead of the previous 3; and new priorities must be *identifiable* and *measurable*. CROs will also work on a *Crime project* and *from time to time* (?) a *Call reduction project* for the beat. Remember that 12Y and 13X are only part of beats 12 and 13.

No changes in priorities for July.

12Y:

1. *NCPC Priority*: No current priority.
2. *Crime Project*: High visibility vehicle patrols on College Avenue between Broadway and Claremont
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

13X:

1. *NCPC Priority*: No current priority.
2. *Crime Project*: none at present.
3. *Call Reduction Project*: to be announced

NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of the month.

*Next NCPC meeting is **Thursday, August 13, 2015** at 7:30 PM
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See you there and stay safe!

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