

Greater Rockridge NCPC (12Y/13X) – Agenda
Thursday, December 8, 2016
Rockridge Library, College and Manila
General Public: 7:30-9:00PM

NCPC:

Michael Ubell – Chair
Barbara Minton – Vice Chair
Eric Neville - Treasurer
Karen Ivy – Secretary & Information Officer

Eric Neville, substituting for Mike Ubell, opened the meeting at 7:32 PM. Karen Ivy was the only other NCPC officer present; Mike Ubell arrived late. Barbara Minton was unable to attend. OPD members present were Officer Anthony Hutzol and Neighborhood Services Coordinator Patricia Rose. 18 people attended the meeting. At Eric's request, attendees introduced themselves briefly.

Priorities

Citizens were very clear their immediate concerns were the recent spates of armed robberies and car burglaries. Officer Hutzol then volunteered to give a verbal report, as he'd been unable to prepare a formal written report.

OPD Status Report, Beat 12Y

Officer Hutzol said that, due to the recent armed robberies all over the city, he's been assigned to the Ceasefire squad, which is going around getting rid of identified "shooting squads," and has been on mandatory overtime. That's why he has no formal presentation. The local criminals know that OPD is stretched thin. Some of the groups he's been after were gang members "training" new recruits.

There were two groups responsible for the recent robberies in the area.

1. A group of 5 female juveniles, in a green and white Honda Civic. They were all arrested the day before the meeting. All of them took a deal for probation, and will be back on the street by Monday Dec. 12.
2. A group of older juveniles (aged around 14-15), who seem to be related to the first group. They've been identified as Oakland Tech students; Oakland Tech keeps a database of student license plates. OPD is trying to build a case against them – prosecuting juveniles requires a very strong case. Their M.O. was to drive around their target area looking for females walking alone, especially those looking at digital media. They then drive round a corner, hop out of their car, rob the target, and run back to the car.

Officer Hutzol strongly recommends a buddy system – the arrested juveniles admitted that second person is a major deterrent. If you can identify a license plate on a suspect car it can help. He plans to work with BART Police, as BART riders are the major victims. Also, Locksley is a major target area. He recommends a buddy system and is working on details.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

RockridgeNCPC.com & OaklandPolice.com

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<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RockridgeNCPC/>

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A resident then spoke up and said she wants to set up buddy system. The group discussed possibilities but came up with no definite answers:

- Will BART allow an 11x14 signup paper in the Rockridge Station?
- Can we set up a casual carpool for walkers?
- Another Resident agreed this is a good idea, but it only works one way; how about getting to BART in the morning? Is there an app that will do this?

Officer Hutzol and NSC Rose reported that they attended a joint meeting with BART recently, and they will be at the BART station on Wednesday 12/14 from 4-7 PM. They will pass out safety tips, and focus on recent auto burglaries. Officer Hutzol said he would like to be back on his “beat,” just driving up and down the hot spot areas, but the CROs (Community Resource Officers) have all been pulled off to help deal with the recent shootings.

Chris Jackson of the RDA (merchants’ association) asked if the NCPC can print up half page flyer. He suggests everyone email Dan Kalb and Olga Bolotina and tell them we want our CRO back. We pay for his services via Measure Z taxes, but the law allows OPD to pull them off if needed. Chris reported that he complained when the Federally funded walking officer was pulled away, and got him back, working overtime.

A resident asked if we have statistics on how often the CROs are working here? Officer Hutzol says he knows but it isn't published – he can provide the information. He is at the will of the department. Can we get those statistics on a monthly basis and publish them? Mike Ubell will ask at the regular captains' meeting, attended by all the NCPC chairs, and see if we can get something we can publish.

Chris Jackson raised the issue of delays getting thru to 911 a woman recently fell on College Avenue, and was on the ground. It took 10-15 min. to get EMTs to the scene; a few weeks ago took him 4 minutes to get through to 911. We need to push on dispatch response times too.

Q: Are the robberies in Feb. 2016 related to these robberies?

A: – No, those were adults, who are now in jail.

Q: These recent robbers are children - is there something we can do about this? They're just kids.

A: The Juvenile Hall has restorative justice programs, and kids who are receptive to that get less punitive approaches. Officer Hutzol noted there are few points in common between an ordinary 14-year-old and a 14-year-old with a .45 caliber handgun in his belt, facing a police officer.

Q: Is there a program to keep kids from doing this at Oakland Tech? Mike Ubell suggested the person contact Jody London, our school district representative. (jody.london@ousd.org)

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Q: Do some cities pay kids not to get in trouble?

A: Oakland Ceasefire does that. The city of Richmond also does that.

Marc Pilotin, Oakland Public Ethics Commissioner

Mr. Pilotin was accompanied by his colleague, Milad Dalju, Deputy Director.

Oakland Measure CC, in 2014, granted the [Oakland Public Ethics Commission](#) more powers, and more money. Commissioner Pilotin said the commissioners are now getting out into community to explain what they do, and where the money is going. The Public Ethics Commission's purpose is to make sure Oakland city government is fair, transparent, and open. Mike Ubell has worked with us, in addition to his NCPC duties.

Jurisdiction – the Commission is in charge of enforcing [Oakland Campaign Reform Act](#) (OCRA), which restricts and controls how much money can be donated to candidates and measures. They've been helped by [OpenOakland](#), a volunteer group, in putting up Internet sites such as *opendisclosure.io*, to track where the money came from, and where it went. Other laws they enforce include:

- The [Government Ethics Act](#) covers conflict of interest issues, pay-to-play, anti-nepotism, and anti-interference (such as elected officials trying to influence the city administration).
- The [Sunshine Ordinance](#) – all meetings should be open to the public. You're guaranteed 2 minutes to speak at any government meeting.
- The [Limited Public Financing Act](#) – we're reviewing that this year, hoping to revise and improve it.
- The Commission also manages the [lobbyist registration program](#).

The Commission has worked with Open Oakland to get information out to the public. It has passed revisions to OCRA which state that candidates and elected officials can now be held responsible for illegal donations. A particular issue has been City officials getting costly sports tickets (from the A's, the Raiders, and the Warriors), which they use for reasons that may not be in the public interest (see below).

Next year the commission will keep working on OCRA and public financing. There are 7 commissioners, who all live in Oakland.

You can be involved: Public Ethics Commission meetings are the 1st Monday of each month. Everyone is welcome. Come and take part in local govt. Email: ethicscommission@oaklandnet.com. Please note that we can only address things governed by the laws we enforce; we can't address general mistreatment at city hall.

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There was a special PEC meeting on sports tickets last week. Several people showed up. How should sports tickets provided by the teams be used? Nobody from public said anything about how they should be used. Should the city use the tickets as leverage in negotiations with the teams? We can monetize them. They are public resources, as the city has an interest in the coliseum complex; the tickets could go to good purposes (local nonprofits). But the public does not benefit if a City Council member takes the tickets and uses them for non-public purposes. How can the city benefit? How do we close loopholes? Sacramento has a full time employee dedicated to distributing tickets, which is costly. Commissioner Pilotin's goal is to have something done on this issue by February.

Q: Is your job providing transparency on how money is spent?

A: Yes - Milad Dalju reported imposing a \$14,000 fine on a company that was funneling illegally large donations to city candidates via its employees. Mr. Dalju noted that the Sunshine Ordinance means you *should* get answers to freedom of information requests. If you ask for information under the Sunshine Ordinance and don't get it, you should go to Public Ethics Commission. The Commission web site has a complaint form if you aren't getting satisfaction.

You can use www.recordtrak.com to request information from the city (FOIA).

Election

Bylaws Change

Mike Ubell explained the bylaw changes; there were handouts available. Mike asked for a motion to remove the quorum from the bylaws. Chris Jackson moved, a resident seconded the motion. The motion passed 10 ayes, one abstention, no nays. (Note: 18 people signed into the meeting, but at the time of the election there were 11 people in the room.)

Elect New Treasurer

Elect a treasurer to manage the city money. After several years in which NCPCs received no money from the city, Oakland again provides each NCPC with \$700 per police beat per year for miscellaneous expenses. Since the Greater Rockridge NCPC is responsible for 2 police beats, we now receive \$1,400 per year. The last Treasurer, Molly Singer, resigned in February 2016. Eric Neville has volunteered to take on the position.

A resident moved that we elect Eric Neville as treasurer. Chris Jackson seconded the motion. The attendees elected him unanimously. We now have a treasurer.

NCPC Priorities for December 2016

12Y:

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1. *NCPC Priority:* Many recent armed robberies
2. *NCPC Priority:* Many recent car burglaries.

13X:

1. *NCPC Priority:* No current priority.

NCPC meetings are normally the SECOND Thursday of even-numbered months.
*Next meeting **Thursday, February 9, 2017** at 7:30 PM*
Rockridge Library, College and Manila
See you there and stay safe!

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