

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO**  
**Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention**  
**Minutes**

July 19th, 2007

Balboa Park Club Building (Santa Fe Room)

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

2. Members attending were:

Pastor Harry Cooper  
Steve Eldred  
Larry Fitch  
Gary Gallegos  
Alicia De Leon Torres  
Kevin Henderson  
Eugene Johnson  
Chief William Lansdowne  
Lynn Sharpe Underwood

*Absent:*

Dr. Carl Cohn  
Conrad Harris  
Christopher Yanov  
Scott Silverman  
Benita Page

3. The Minutes were reviewed. The Commission unanimously accepted the minutes for the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting. (With a motion by Larry Fitch and a second by Steve Eldred)

4. Community Scan:

A. **Gang Statistics-** Lt. Andrew Mills reported that gang activity is on the rise. Assaults with a deadly weapon and attempted homicides had increased. He reported that homicides in MidCity were up and that there was increased violence in Linda Vista. Southeastern violence was down as compared to last year.

The Gang Unit now has an email address for the community to use: [ganginfo@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:ganginfo@pd.sandiego.gov) to report any activity within the community.

B. **Probation Statistics-** Deputy Chief Pamela Martinez provided a table showing by Council District referrals to probation. (see attached)

C. **Omega Boys Training-** Kevin Henderson discussed the training he attended at the Omega Boys Club. Kevin discussed that Dr. Marshall from the Omega Boys Club classified gang involvement as a

“disease”. Kevin listed some of the “symptoms” 1) Handle your business 2) Get respect 3) Down for the Hood. Kevin was really impressed at how comprehensive the training was and how Dr. Marshall was able to connect with former gang members and help them turn their lives in a positive direction.

## 5. Discussion/ Action Items

### A. Reports from Neighborhood Groups

**Linda Vista-** Grover Diemert from the Family Success Center at Montgomery Middle School said that the Linda Vista workgroup is focused on prevention rather than intervention in their anti-gang initiative. He also stated that the Linda Group conducted a survey of the Safe Passage at Montgomery Middle School and that students overall felt safe. Diemert expressed that the Linda Vista group is working on involving faith-based organizations.

**Southeastern-** Luis Natividad from the Jacobs Center said that there are 50 participants in the Southeastern workgroup. He stated that the Southeastern group would be focusing on family support and education for youth to reduce gang activity.

Natividad reported that five people from the Southeastern workgroup attended a 3-day training at the Omega Boys Club in San Francisco. After the training, the Southeastern group developed a five-part action plan to launch the Safe Neighborhood project. The Southeastern group will meet on July 25<sup>th</sup> to develop action steps for their project.

**Mira Mesa-** Alicia De Leon Torres from UPAC stated that they have not been able to meet. Torres said she is optimistic that the residents of Mira Mesa will work on reducing gang violence in their community. She also reported that SDPD is being proactive in trying to find a resolution for gang violence in Mira Mesa.

**Southbay-** Monica Hernandez from Casa Familiar said that the collaboration there has been focused on creating a resource directory for the Southbay area that will include all social services available in the region.

Casa Familiar is building an art/cultural center for youth and their families. This Community center will offer classes (i.e. art, music, technology etc...) and offer a venue to have concerts, films, and be general meeting place for the community.

**North County** – Steve Eldred stated that the North County has been meeting. He will be the representative to keep the Commission aware of the work that community Collaborative is working on. He said they were working on goals for the collaboration.

**ACTION:** A motion by Gary Gallegos and seconded by Larry Fitch that the commission would support hold a convening for the community collaborations in the fall was passed unanimously. Gary Gallegos offered to hold a fall convening at his offices.

#### B. Discussion Item #2: Strategic Goals

The Following goals were presented:

Strategic Goal #1 – Effective city-wide coordination and collaboration of anti gang programs

- A. Establish community technical teams to implement neighborhood strategies
- B. Collaborate on establishing safe Passage program at schools at top three unsafe schools in the community
- C. Develop employment strategies for at risk youth and former gang members

Strategic Goal #2 – Serviceable communications between communities, agencies and the Commission

- A. Disseminate information about programs being funded within the community
- B. Broadly communicate neighborhood concerns about gang issues on a regular basis
- C. Create Educational media for the community through collaborations
- D. Develop a hotline for the community

Strategic Goal #3 – Informative Recommendations on Policy Issues

- A. Collect information on Trend Analysis with Listening Tours, reviewing local crime statistics
- B. Work with local researchers on surveys and data collection
- C. Develop commission as key source of updated anti-gang program/policy research

Strategic Goal #4 – Appropriate resources and capacity building for anti-gang strategies

- A. Disseminate applicable grant information to Commission members and community organizations
- B. Identify and facilitate collaborative grant writing opportunities.
- C. Organize forums for community learning

- D. Create consensus on Community Outcome measures that reflect impact on gangs and at risk youth ability to make positive choices

Larry Fitch described the goals as the first stage of a discussion.

Pastor Cooper stated that the goals were too focused on the Commission. He suggested that they be more focused on concepts that the Council could implement.

Gary Gallegos was concerned that there was no mention of the need for resources to implement any plan that might be recommended to the Council.

**ACTION:** Chief Lansdowne made the motion to send the Goals to the Ad Hoc Committee whose members are Kevin Henderson, Alicia DeLeon Torres and Gary Gallegos to work on a more focused draft to be presented at the next meeting. It was seconded by Steve Eldred and passed unanimously.

Community Response:

Luis Natividad wanted wording “community learning” changed.

#### 9. Executive Director’s Report

- a) Grants Information
  - 1. Staff reported that the Safe Schools Grant with San Diego Police Department had been submitted.
  - 2. The OJJDP grant which would fund the San Diego Initiative (a neighborhood collaboration effort) had been submitted.
  - 3. California Wellness Foundation has invited the Commission to submit an application for an expansion of the neighborhood focused coordination. It is due August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- b) National League of Cities California Gang Prevention Network is meeting in LA in February 2008.
- c) There will be an important Back to School Event on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at Lincoln High School. The Commission will have a table there and invites members to speak at the event.

#### 10. Announcements

- The Everybody Recommitting to Academic Achievement Back To School event is August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Jackie Robinson YMCA.
- International Day of Peace in Southeastern San Diego is on Saturday, September 22, 2007 from 11 a to 4 p.m.

#### 11. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm