

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention
Minutes

Thursday, January 17, 2008

5 p.m.

Dolores Magdaleno Memorial Recreation Center
2902 Marcy Avenue

Meeting was called to order at 5:15p.m.

1. Attending the Meeting:

Pastor Cooper, Chair
Steve Eldred/California Foundation
Chief Lansdowne/Chief of Police
Alicia DeLeon Torres
Benita Page/Choice
Fred Sotelo
Victor Torres
Christopher Yanov/Reality Changers
Scott Silverman/Second Chance

Staff:

Lynn Sharpe-Underwood
John Minto

2. The Commission approved the November 29, 2007 minutes with the following correction: Commissioner Yanov stated he wanted the minutes to reflect he said he is concerned appointees to the Commission might not have full interest in serving the Commission.

3. Current Information Scan – *Commissioner Chief Lansdowne*

GANG CASES CURRENT MONTH	
	TOTAL (Month)
187 (Homicide)	<u>1</u> *
664/187 (Attempt Homicide)	<u>1</u>
245 (Assault with a Deadly Weapon)	<u>18</u>
246/247 (Shooting at a House/Vehicle)	<u>0</u>
211 (Robbery)	<u>7</u>
10851(Auto Theft)	<u>3</u>
OTHER (All other Crimes)	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	<u>55</u>

**GANG MEMBER DOCUMENTATION
CURRENT MONTH**

DOCUMENTED	<u>23</u>
PURGED	<u>23</u>
TOTAL POPULATION	<u>3703</u>

Commissioner Victor Torres asked about Car thefts. **Lt. Duran** explained known gang members were arrested for the three reported thefts.

Commissioner Cooper mentioned there was a known increase in homicides. Lt. Duran explained the gang members approached the victim on foot versus the traditional drive by shooting method, which may account for the higher death rate. Commissioner Cooper asked which area had the most number of homicides, and Lt. Duran did not have the information on hand.

Commissioner Cooper asked how many documented gang members were in the City. Lt. Duran stated there were 3703 documented gang members in the City. Commissioner Cooper asked how many had rotated off the documentation roll vs. the new people. Lt. Duran stated 23 were purged, and 23 newly documented were added to the documented rolls.

The Executive Director pointed out Sergeant Martha Sainz of the Juvenile Services Unit reported the "Parent Notification Letter" the Commission worked on for parents of potential young juveniles who might be documented as gang members had generated an unexpected response from parents. Sergeant James Filley from the Southeastern Division reported to Sergeant Sainz he was getting phone calls and making referrals.

Commissioner Silverman pointed out that gang crime was going up but general crime was going down. Staff explained we are confronting this is situation.

The Executive Director requested a report be prepared showing the number of juveniles arrested.

Commissioner Yanov asked if the Police could estimate the number of subjects that are not documented as gang member, but might be gang members. Lt. Duran stated that it was tough to say how many, and there is no way to really estimate the number.

Chief Lansdowne stated the gang unit is being more assertive with identifying gang related crime, which could be attributed to the reported increase in gang related crimes. Regardless, gang members are getting more violent.

Commissioner De Leon Torres noted that the media reported gang related crimes were up in City Heights and Mira Mesa. Lt. Duran stated that proportionally the figures might look like. Sandy from SANDAG said it might be a condition of people knowing more about what is happening in their community and reporting the crimes.

Commissioner Silverman stated that data is clear so that we can better service the community and be collaborative. Commissioner De Leon Torres pointed out that Mira Mesa is still at the top of the list of gang related crimes.

Chief Lansdowne mentioned that a request had been made for information that is more detailed and a map of the situation.

Commissioner Cooper asked if drug related activity in Tijuana is having an impact in San Diego. Lt. Duran explained the majority of street level activity is robbery and violent acts. However, there is no direct correlation to what is happening in Mexico. He pointed out that the larger markets are Los Angeles and Chicago.

4. Discussion/Action Agenda:

- a. Discussion of information Commission should obtain regarding the formation of new gang sets, local gang specific trends and distribution of the information to the public.

The Executive Director said this recommendation comes from several Commissioners wanting more information about street level trends. For instance, "dance crews" evolution into violent crews --much like the Tagging crews have become. The goal would be to create a way to inform parents and educate them about what is going on in terms of trends. Youth participation will be part of this and includes their dialogue with the Commission.

Commissioner DeLeon Torres mentioned the statistics were good but we could not get a grasp of what is actually happening to families and the community as result of the focusing on the statistics. People need to understand that the tagging is the result of the gang involvement in their community and how it impacts their community more. The line staff or street workers know what is going on and can tie the statistics with actual communities or trends. It is important to put faces on the statistics. There also needs to be more integrated information between law enforcement agencies and that is not happening. Schools need to know better as well.

Recommended Action: Establish an Ad Hoc Committee to review information and make recommendations to the Commission. It was moved by Victor Torres and seconded by Chief Lansdowne. Ad Hoc Committee will be:

Chief Lansdowne
Fed Sotelo
Alicia De Leon Torres
Pastor Cooper
Victor Torres

- b. Updates:
 - i. January 25th Summit
 1. Paul Seave, State Gang Czar, is keynote
 2. Grant capacity workshop was added to the agenda

- a. Mentioned that Probation had provided information to help organizations build their application
- b. Steve Eldred stated he would be there to support the effort
- 3. Youth Dialogue with Mr. Seave had been added to the agenda
- 4. District Attorney's office is co-sponsoring the event
 - a. They have been taking RSVPs
 - b. Commissioner Sotelo wanted to know how deep the research on who was attending. He hoped that we could capture more information regarding this process to make it more active and move this effort into a movement.
 - c. Commissioner DeLeon Torres stated she would distribute to the college groups on campus.

ii. Safe Passage Update

- 1. Gompers Report by the Attorney General's report was distributed
- 2. Bell and Morse have a meeting scheduled Feb. 14
 - a. Gompers will be meeting at Lincoln High School@ 10 a.m. in building 100
 - b. 1:30 meeting will be at Montgomery
- 3. Discussions are in process with Hoover, Crawford/Horace Mann

6. Partnership Reports – none attended

7. Commission-Community dialogue (Speakers Slips are available for this at the door)

8. Announcements

Commissioner Eldred announced that the budget cuts would be impacting community organizations. He pointed out that Probation has to cut \$1.7 million out of its budget. What will be cut he pointed out would be prevention and intervention program would be impacted. He felt the Commission needs to be very conscious about this.

Commissioner Cooper wants the City to value children and to be engaged in thinking about this issue and what the impact of budget cuts will have.

Commission Sotelo stated we need to get in front of supporting foundation boards and explain the urgency of them continuing their support. He wants to have fellow commissioners to get involved in this effort. He wants to set up meetings and move this forward. He volunteered to meet with these boards.

The Executive Director said this could be mentioned at the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services meeting. Commissioner Silverman mentioned CDBG would be an opportunity to also mention this.

Commissioner Yanov announced that Reality Changers will offer a college scholarship, named the Education is Bulletproof Award (EBA), to students in San Diego – any real revolutionary – who have lost a brother, a sister, a mother, or a father to gang violence and nonetheless seek to pursue a college education. A contributor's conference will be held on January 30th to identify community members will to donate \$100 to the EBA for every gang-related homicide in San Diego over the upcoming year.

Margie DeRuyter announced that On January 25th, 2008, The San Diego Workforce Partnership Policy Board approved contracts to the Coalition of Neighborhood Councils and Interfaith Community Services to provide this school based workforce development services as an approach to gang prevention, at Morse and Oceanside High Schools, respectively. Funds approved were based upon the amount requested in each organization's application for Program Year 07-08. The CNC award was \$40,600 and North County Interfaith was \$31,757. These are partial year contracts, funding planning and program design for 4 months, and program implementation from May-June 08.

Grant application to the State

Workforce Development Second Chance Strive and Probation submitted one that would help young people returning from the youth camps get job ready.

The Executive Director mentioned that four cities applied for the CALPGRIP cities grant:

Chula Vista
Oceanside
National City
San Diego

San Diego's City application included a collaboration with Park and Recreation and a local CBO (yet to be named) to work with a Juvenile Services office.

Commissioner Cooper announced that his baby due date is February 12th.

10. Adjournment was at 6:05p

Public Comment on an Agenda Item: If you wish to address the Commission on an item on today's agenda, please complete a speaker form (on the table near the door) and give it to the Commission's secretary before the Commission hears the agenda item. You will be called at the time the item is heard.

Public Comment on Matters Not on the Agenda: You may address the Commission on any matter not listed on today's agenda at the end of the meeting. During Commission-Community Dialogue. Complete a speaker form and give it to the Commission's Executive Secretary. However, California's open meeting laws do not permit the Commission to discuss or take any action on the matter at today's meeting. At its discretion, the Commission may refer the matter to staff or committee.

Individual's= comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. At the discretion of the Chair, if a large number of people wish to speak on the same item, comments may be limited to a set period of time per item. The information contained in this agenda is available in alternative format. To request an agenda in Braille, large print, or cassette, or to request a sign language or oral interpreter for the meeting, call the Commission office at least five (5) working days prior to meeting.(619-236-5936)