

Theme 1- Community Policing

United Way Building, 616 S. Collett St.

Attendees: Greg Garlock, Denise Barnes, George Schock, Wes Richard, Robert Hammell, Jim Neighbors, John Schneider, Beverly Prueter, Brenda Kidd, Bob Friedman, Miodred Stewart, Beverly Leary.

Absent: Connie Dershem, David & Jane Blauvelt, David Adams, Fr. Steve Blum, Mathew Johnson, Mildred Stewart, Rick Rohrbaugh, Tonya Lauck

Meeting started: 4:00PM and ended at 5:30PM.

Team Leader: Greg Garlock

Notetaker: George Schock

Greg started the meeting by having an open discussion on the duration of the meetings and it was decided that they would be 1 hour in length, with the understanding that some subjects may cause the meetings to last longer as the agenda drives the time. He also gave an overview of the first meeting.

Greg briefed the team on the history of the COP program at LPD. He advised that the program started in 1994 with a federal grant on COP initiatives for \$750,000.00 for 10 officers the grant paid the salary and the city paid the benefits. A team was formed at the PD and assigned to the COP project by Chief Catlett. The team was Greg Garlock, Albright and Blass in Oct of 1994 The team looked at the following on the COP program.

1. Would it be a fit for Lima
2. Must be flexible
3. Must involve a buy in by all PD personnel, civilian and sworn and the community.
4. Project must create a sense of ownership of the area by the officers
5. Geographic deployment of manpower must be consider.

Project was in place by 1997. The traditional police operations changed as did the traditional supervision levels. Teams were set up as follows: Sgt, team leader, Patrol Officers, Neighborhood Officer, Crime Prevention Officers. A Lieut oversaw the Sgt's in the teams.

The next step was the training of officers on community policing physiology, 8 hours for all police department personnel. 4 hour training sessions were held for the public.

The next step in March 95 was to set up steering committee with officers and council and neighborhoods. They also set up problem solving teams as part of the committee.

The next step was a pilot project in Riverside North. The Riverside North area accounted for 19 % of the police call load.

GOAL: Relationship building and problem solving. On 30 June 1995 the first office was opening on Metcalf Street.

The next two locations were Martin Luther King, then Midway East and a third was set up at RRO.

12 citizens were added to the COP board, 10 Officers were added to the PD through the grant. After three years into the grant the City had to pick up the full tab for all 10 officers, which they did.

COP officers were placed based on need and strength of the neighborhood associations. The process worked well and was effective, as crime levels dropped and relationships were developed in the neighborhoods.

What did not work:

The officer on duty 24 hours a day did not work well due to dual responsibilities of

officers and all on were on different shifts..

The concept was changed to actual hours and time worked.

After 9-11 the COPS funding for programs changed to Homeland Security Funding.

Greg then posed a question: Where do we go from here.

- COP was a successful program and can be again.
- Training for citizens would be needed and new officers on the PD would need training
- COP officers empower groups.
- We need to look at what worked and how as the citizens took ownership of the neighborhoods.
- A police levy went down in defeat.

COP officers were not call driven and could spend more time in neighborhoods.

Call loads prevent officers from spending the time in the neighborhoods they use to.

What will the public be willing to give up to get better service. Obviously the concept of taking complaints over the phone was not acceptable to the public.

Discussion:

Start with #6 with meetings but they (groups) may not be willing to attend. In the past neighborhoods were canvassed by a Officer, and association member with 3 questions and the quality of life were the top issues.

We should do surveys around the city and tabulate the results to see peoples concerns. At follow on meetings address issues and how they can be fixed. On the surveys do not ask for addresses, but the intersection of streets in the neighborhood.

Expand neighborhood meetings to cover concerns from the questionnaires.

Does the open forum address crisis listed in #1 theme. We need to address diversity issues. What is the top priority?

Meetings bring relationships within the groups.

How do you get the people you need at the meetings.

Meetings involve top officers in the department not street officers, current neighborhood meetings.

Need to set up another meeting to go over suggestions and plan out our path.

The next meeting is scheduled at the United Way Center, Conference Room, at 4PM, on 6 January 2009.

Bring you're ideas and questions, none are bad and all will add to the sharing of ideas.