



Monday, January 7, 2019
2-3 pm
Antoine's Restaurant

Security and Enforcement Committee Special Meeting

Meeting Notes

Members present: Steve Caputo, Bryan Drude, Matthew Emory, Beverly Fulk, Albin Guillot, Ann Kesler, Vincent Marcello, Bob Simms, Mike Tilbury, Robert Watters

Committee members absent: Gail Cavett, Brittany McGovern

Guests: Monika Gerhart, Cmdr Nicholas Gernon, Susan Guillot, Morris Kahn, Nick Musso, Andrew Sullivan, Officer Aldeane Valentino

FQMD staff: Emily Remington

Meeting was called to order by Emory at 2:03pm.

Introduction of attendees.

Emory opened the floor to discussion and further thoughts on the five previously proposed 2019 SEC goals of enhancing quality of life enforcement, increasing the number of private and public security cameras in the FQ, investigating methods and technology to reduce number of guns on the street, eliminating single officer FQTF shifts & increased supervision and updating the work scope for FQTF operations & administration.

Guillot commended Cmdr. Gernon on improvement in the 8th District, saying that current complaints are now mostly about quality of life issues, so residents would like to have a full-time Quality of Life Officer. Gernon replied that might be possible, although effectively most officers are already fulfilling that role. Watters felt that quality of life should be a natural extension of regular policing, not specified separately. Cmdr. Gernon added that officers must be actual NOPD to have legal authority.

Residential area problems mostly pertain to the gutter punks. Guillot described the recent dramatic and effective gutter punk sweep conducted by NOPD. Musso believed that any quality of life policing would need a level of specificity that does not delineate between business and residential.

Kahn expressed interest in seeing a CEA developed having Parking Enforcement help identify and notify appropriate entities about any problem activities they observe while performing their customary duties. Brief discussion before adding to the goals. Emory added another goal, better efficiencies in the monies spent for Task Force vehicle maintenance. Some thought that might be achieved by partnering with other security entities, i.e. FMC, DDD.

Musso believed that better communication is needed between the various entities, especially during emergencies when time is wasted by first going through dispatch. We need to combat that negative perception of the French Quarter.

Discussion proceeded to the proposed security assessment. Simms felt it was putting the cart before the horse, that SEC should first determine needs, deliverables and requirements, then put out an RFP. Guillot had recently read through the entire lengthy and expensive Beale St. Study and had come to the conclusion that most of the recommendations were just regular police work. Musso advised that an RFP is required by the State of Louisiana, and described the process. Mayor's Office representative Monika Gerhart said that the Mayor's Office supports a study and is interested in knowing how the different entities fit together. Watters and Simms related examples of situations that either did or did not call for using an RFP.

A budget needs to be determined. Andrew Sullivan, representative from Cm Palmers office, said that Cm Palmer wants to know that the resources are smart and strategic. Musso advised that FQMD has not stated how much money will be set aside for a study, adding that we are assured that FMC wants the opportunity to work with us, while the DDD is still an unknown factor. Engagement is needed with DDD to identify their involvement. He believed that patrolling in the FMC area should be defined as "on foot," and that the RFP needs a good set of criteria.

Emory was in favor of using the Interfor proposal as a baseline because it was the least costly of the two draft proposals Committee had seen. Caputo declared that a decision needed to be made now with no more time wasted, otherwise the year will have passed with nothing done and City Hall questioning FQMD's effectiveness.

Attendees felt that the work should begin with developing a Statement of Work and named several requirements, beginning with identification of all the policing resources in the 8th District. Emory pointed to pages 4 and 5 of the ERMS Draft Proposal for helpful examples and Simms showed another example proposal. A Motion was proposed by Watters and seconded by Simms stating that Emory and Guillot would develop a Statement of Work summarizing the discussion suggestions and distribute it electronically to members for comment via email. Motion was passed unanimously. Cmdr Gernon added that there should be a peer review by an expert in the field of policing.

Committee members let it be known that they wanted Simms' Task Force reports to remain on the Agenda for every meeting.

Remington to send a survey questionnaire to members for determining the best day/time to hold remaining 2019 SEC meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Notes compiled by Bev Fulk