



Monday, February 17, 2020
2-3pm
Antoine's Restaurant
713 St. Louis Street, New Orleans

Security and Enforcement Committee Meeting Notes

First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent
Ann	Kesler		x
Beverly	Fulk	x	
Bob	Simms	x	
Brittany	McGovern	x	
Bryan	Drude		x
Frances	Hegenberger	x	
Gail	Cavett		x
Glade	Bilby	x	
Matthew	Emory	x	
Robert	Watters	x	
Steve	Caputo	x	
Vincent	Marcello		x

Guests Present: Karley D. Frankic, Erin Holmes, Ethan Ellestad, Officer Aldeane Valentino

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 by Matthew Emory and all of the attendees introduced themselves.

January 27, 2020 meeting notes were amended to reflect the attendance and approved.

Emory gave a security assessment update to committee that the assessment is being finalized and will be released with actionable items. Hoping to have released within one to two months. The board has reviewed it and the consultant needs to revise before it can be released.

Discussion of Committee 2020 goals and develop strategies and develop strategies to achieve these goals:

Emory: Supporting the increase of NOPD officers in 8th District: Want to get an economic impact statement for the FQ that will indicate the need for continued funding for the SPPP and supporting the 8th District. Want support to being back to pre-Katrina numbers. Valentino: academy numbers are not high enough to staff the NOPD as quickly as desired. The Sobering Center and LEAD need support. It helps to have a LEAD program that allows officers to get back on the streets quickly. Caputo: The issue with small academy classes as an effect of Consent Decree said that the classes were too large to allow



for one-on-one training. The attrition rate is almost equal to the number of graduates from the academy. Only nine officers were added to the ranks in 2019. Valentino: Cadets are sometimes not able to pass the test. NOPD has reduced the entrance standards to no longer need to be college graduate

Bob Simms said that the figure of SPPP is currently providing coverage equivalent to 65 regular NOPD officers (need to confirm). is out of line with the reality. He said that the SPPP is 8 officers. It was related that the \$1.2M is the equivalent of 65 full-time NOPD officers. Watters: The SPPP was always intended to be temporary until NOPD could get back up to full numbers. Overtime is less efficient than fulltime officers. Simms: the overtime officers are exhausted by working so many hours. Emory: we need to assess what would happen if the funding went away? Watters: The LSP Troop N was also intended to be temporary as well. What is the baseline troop located in Troop N. Simms reported that he receives the report of the shifts are sent to him. Emory asked that FQMD to send a letter to LSP requesting numbers of shifts stopped. And a letter requesting what heir plan is if they do not continue to receive that funding. Simms said that he does not think the City wants to spend the money to hire additional officers. Emory: if the revenue depletes because there is a crime issue that causes tourism revenues to go down, then the City would have to fund it? Watters: What if the NOPD could do a class just to staff the FQ? Valentino: the 8th District is run completely different than the rest of the City. You couldn't do a class just for FQ. Emory: Tourism policing is a different animal then neighborhood policing. Simms: additional training is required to police in the FQ. Emory: Need ot focus on what if this funding goes away? That may spur people to want to focus on issue of an understaffed NOPD. Watters: This may be the year that the consent decree. Valentino: The consent decree is keeping the academy classes small. It was a cap of 25 and had to fight to get the cap increased to 30 and not everyone graduates. Emory: We want to be clear that we support NOPD. Watters: if we want to achieve anything then we need to look to the NOPD to get their support to dedicate a FQ NOPD academy class. Simms: Should talk with the Melanie Talia from the Police & Justice Committee. Emory: Do they still give a signup bonus for out of state hires. Valentino: We do have an increase in out of state officers that couldn't get hired in their hometown but they end of leaving because of challenges of living in New Orleans. Simms: We can't carry on for the next ten years doing it the way we have need ot have an exit strategy. Bilby: This is why Cavett gave the number of \$1.2M supporting 65 fulltime officers. Emory: Want to reach out to UNO to extract a correlation between the revenue to the supplemental police efforts. Caputo: there is a discussion around redoing the hospitality impact study. Watters: Safety and security are important aspects of dissatisfaction numbers.

Emory: Review the 8th District Shifts provided. Frankic is now receiving those numbers. Simms will get Frankic on the list to receive the reports from LSP and NOPD on the staff numbers

Emory: Can we obtain crime stats for the city and specifically the French Quarter, with a focus on initial charges and final disposition of charges? Valentino: The DA's team would be best to provide this information. Emory: is the committee ok with pursuing this information? Fulk: This goes to moral of the officers that if they arrest will they perpetrator be prosecuted. Emory: What are the trends? Watters: What is the # of cases that the DA refuses to the # he is sent and then what # is prosecuted? Emory



asked Valentino to define what committee request what they are looking for Valentino: will help.
Emory: maybe get volunteers from the Criminal Justice Center to help get the data.

Emory: Next steps to attack guns in the French Quarter 1. Liaise with the Government Affairs committee to work the CM Palmer on presenting new language that will affect the city and specifically the French Quarter. Cpt Gerron had good ideas on the distances and specific language that would be useful. Will reach out to Jeremy at Gov Affairs Committee first before proceeding.

Emory: Sobering center and what it means to the French Quarter? What is the recovery for fees so that it is not just a transportation service for people to dry out. Valentino: Doing a great job educating other officers about the Sobering Center. Getting the word out to residents 25 people in February so far. Sobering Center has 25 beds. Have grown in the past 4-5 month. Caputo: Is there a way to do a publicity campaign to raise awareness about the program. Simms: It was intended that there would be a sobering van that would patrol the FQ to pick up the people. The EMT and Officer were supposed to be overtime officers, none of which has been spent. Nov 2018 someone offered to buy the van and the City turned them down. It has been one mishap after another. He City wants a handicap accessible van and the City doesn't have it. As of yesterday, it hasn't been ordered. Valentino: has cards with the direct number to the Odyssey House van. Valentino: Bebe and Robin are working on general public publicity. Simms: don't want to swamp the NOPD to take them away from crime. Valentino: An officer does not have to be there for Odyssey House staff. 504.512.3266 cell phone to the Odyssey House van. Sobering Center has their own number 504.821.9211 option5. Emory: What is their capacity to take phone calls? Valentino will find out. Watters: Public Emergency Responders has immunity whereas Odyssey House may be open to liability if people are calling them a lot. Emory: EMS needs to triage before they are transferred to the Sobering Center. Valentino: Officer can stop to assure that a Medical Call to assure that law enforcement needs are met. If they are violent, they cannot go to the Sobering Center. Caputo: This is about a public information campaign. How can we help it grow and develop based on the need from Odyssey House and the Sobering Center. Valentino: The safest process is to call eh non-emergency number. Frankic requested Valentino provide the NOPD procedure to be shared with the Committee

French Quarter Crime Stats: Bob Simms for 1st Quarter to Date in the French Quarter 4 armed robberies (all btw 12-7 am) 14 simple robberies (7 btw 12-7 am) 6 shooting and stabbings (3 btw 12-7 am) a big cluster around Iberville and Bourbon (Alibi) as well as 600 block of Bourbon. Compared to last year this a bit of an uptick, almost at the total for this quarter last year. Watters: in the residential area there is a rash of vehicle burglaries and delivery packages. Simms: There have been auto windows smashed which is unusual for the French Quarter. The good news is that the detectives are doing a good job solving the crimes. We have the highest solve rate in the City.

Simms: During Mardi Gras with all of the other law enforcement entities added to the Quarter, the commander asks the SPPP to focus on Zone 3 (St. Ann to Esplanade, Rampart to the River) because road closures prohibit patrolling elsewhere and law enforcement is focused on the commercial area and want SPPP to focus on the residential area.



Emory on new business, want to refocus on working together. It won't always be easy. The French Quarter is different and the approach that we take needs to be sensitive. Want to see this group push the initiatives.

Watters: Ready to rewrite the RFP for contract services. McGovern: Gov Affairs will ask for Kim Rosenberg to help with it.

March 16th is the next meeting date

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20