

Notes

Security & Enforcement Committee Meeting

Monday, 20 December 2021
2:00 pm

Hotel Monteleone, Royal Salon
214 Royal Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

Notes from the December 20th Security & Enforcement Committee meeting

Present: Ann Kessler, Gail Cavett, Glade Bilby, Jane Cooper, Steve Caputo

Absent: Brittany Mc Govern, Matthew Emory, Robert Waters, Frances Hegenberger

Guests: Eric Smith, Robert Simms, Michael Stein (the Lens) Captain Boudreaux and Lieutenant Palumbo

Sue Klein submitted a public comment:

I am requesting verification that FQMD SPPP car purchases will only be those designated by the SEC Working Group, Committee & CEA. That the City will not purchase any other vehicle type for our patrols for the numerous reasons that the committee is aware of.

Approval of previous meeting notes:

Mr. Bilby made a motion to approve the previous meeting notes. Commissioner Cavett seconded the motion and it was approved.

Committee Chair comments:

Vice-Chair Cooper acknowledged that the news of Commander Walls leaving was a blow to the French Quarter and that the Security and Enforcement committee will miss working with him. She also reminded the committee that we would be discussing the scope of work and goals for 2022 later on in the meeting.

Presentation of Eighth District Commander's Updates by Sargeant Marc Boudreau

Captain Walls will be with NOPD for one more month, no replacement has been identified yet. Crimes in the FQ have recently shifted from personal crimes to property crimes. Shootings are down, there were 22 in the first six months of 2021 and 10 shootings in the last 10 months. Commissioner Cooper asked the Sargeant what strategies are in place to get illegal guns off of the streets. Sargeant Boudreau reminded the committee that an illegal carry of a gun is only a misdemeanor, unless the individual is a convicted felon, in which case it is a felony. He reiterated that the 8th District officers will continue doing everything that they have done that has been successful in working to get guns off of the street.

Presentation on Hide, Lock, Take

French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Vice-Chair Cooper confirmed that this continues to slowly move forward. Ms. Frankic followed up with Sarah Porteous last week. Lieutenant Polumbo also stated that they are awaiting approval from the City to use their logo. There will be an update at our January meeting.

Presentation on the status of the expansion of the Royal Street Patrol

Vice-Chair Cooper shared that there continue to be discussions with the City and NOPD to finalize the implementation details.

The committee then transitioned to a discussion about the purchase of vehicles for the SPPP. New Orleans and Co. has provided an active donation to fund 4 vehicles, which should be in service in January, 2022 (per Mr. Smith). Mr. Smith, a guest from the mayor's office, also confirmed that he is creating an RFB to solicit bids from auto dealers. Commissioner Cavett outlined the criteria for vehicle purchase. Commissioner Cooper requested Mr. Smith share a draft of the RFB with the committee prior to the January meeting.

Review of 2021 Goals and discussion of 2022 scope of work

The committee reviewed the 2021 goals and proceeded to agree on the following prospective goals for final discussion and approval at the January meeting:

1. Work with NOPD to reduce illegal guns within the district, including enforcement of Drug Free Zones
2. Understand who manages the bollards on Bourbon Street and the traffic barricades on Royal Street and work with them to make them operational or remove them.
3. Develop a list of actionable items from the FQMD Security Assessment
4. Work with the 8th district to implement the expanded Royal Street patrol and measure results
5. Locate and share credible data on the economic impact of the French Quarter
6. In conjunction with the livability committee, identify 1-2 action items from the homeless assistance survey and implement them
7. In conjunction with the livability committee, execute a plan to quantifiably improve lighting in the French Quarter

New Business

There was no new business

Adjournment

Commissioner Caputo moved to adjourn, Glade Bilby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.