



MINUTES OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE CKF BOARDROOM
LANGLEY CITY HALL
20399 Douglas Crescent

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
AT 6:04 P.M.

- Present: Councillor Paul Albrecht, Chair
Councillor Delaney Mack, Co-Chair
Lew Murphy, Member at Large
Tanya Gabara, Chamber of Commerce
Mary Kydd, Senior Representative
Heather Giuriato, Downtown Langley Business Association
Nathan Balasubramanian, Member at Large
Natalie Selvage, Youth Member
Shishane Johnston, Social Services Representative
- Staff: Dave Selvage, Manager of Community Safety
Paula Kusack, Deputy Corporate Officer
Sgt Bal Sidhu, RCMP
- Regrets: Fraser Holland, Social Services Representative, with regrets
Don Osborne, Member at Large, with regrets
Brian Doyle, Member at Large, with regrets

The Chair began by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

1) AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the September 28, 2023 agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2) MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the May 18, 2023 minutes of the Crime Prevention Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3) STANDING ITEMS

- a) Sub-Committee Update Reports (*as needed*):
- i. Know Your Neighbour Campaign & Block Walk Events
Lew Murphy, Mary Kydd, Natalie Selvage, Brian Doyle

Mr. Murphy advised that the subcommittee met and are working on a strategy. He advised that he is starting KYN promotion in his own neighbourhood by planning a Halloween event. The idea being to promote neighbourhood connections and getting to know your neighbours. He applied for a city grant to help fund the event. Their event will be indoor/outdoor, in case of inclement weather, and there will be an entertainer. All residents in his building and the two neighbouring buildings have been invited. He further noted that the three building strata councils have connected and are working to build connections between residents on the block.

It was further noted that Mr. Doyle had an event at his building, the Legacy, to promote Block Watch.

Ms. Kydd advised that residents in her building in the 55A Ave and Brydon Crescent area, have noticed an increase in crime. She has attempted twice unsuccessfully to create a Block Watch group however there is little to no interest. The strata council quit so she is not sure how to improve the situation there.

The S/Sgt advised that the RCMP have been patrolling the area and have found it to be a low crime area, however he encouraged residents to continue reporting if the problems persist.

There was discussion about the slow uptake of the Block Watch program since covid. It was noted that some feedback included that residents are reluctant to take on the Captain role as they think it is a greater responsibility than it actually is. S/Sgt Sidhu advised that the Captain is the person that liaises with the police and they fan out information to their group. The whole block watch group must be the active eyes and ears on the block.

He advised that the RCMP Block Watch Coordinator is available to talk with people that are considering joining the Block Watch program or becoming a Captain.

He encouraged members to reach out to him to coordinate a meeting to facilitate that.

The Chair requested that Mr. Murphy take photos and document the Block Watch party event he is coordinating. If possible, the CPC could use that information to spark other neighbourhoods to do the same.

ACTION:

He expressed that he, the co-chair, and the RCMP may be available to attend to help promote the crime prevention message. If that was of interest he suggested that Mr. Murphy forward the date/time of the event.

He also suggested considering an invite to other CPC committee members to attend as they can help inform and educate.

S/Sgt Sidhu advised that the RCMP can enhance neighbourhood block watch and community initiatives by providing information, hand outs etc, for example, the Stop Auto Theft tags. Please advise him to receive some.

The Chair advised the group that the City is holding its annual Neighbourhood Meeting events in October. It is an event that has all members of Council and senior staff in attendance to answer questions about anything and everything City related, on their minds. It's an open house format taking place once a week starting October 5 until the end of the month.

ACTION: Staff will forward the dates and times.

- ii. Mail Theft Prevention (education initiative & connect with stratas & property managers)
Lew Murphy, Shishane Johnstone
 - Crime Prevention Committee Letter to Stratas

Mr. Murphy advised that the subcommittee met and after discussion felt that this initiative is complete at this time. He did note that the education component (sharing strategies to minimize theft etc) can continue to be shared through the Know Your Neighbour campaign /subcommittee work.

S/Sgt Sidhu advised that crime statistics regarding mail theft are stable. They go down in one area but go up in another. There haven't been any spikes in recent months.

The Chair advised that the City's Advisory Design Panel continues to ask developers to install Canada Post standard equipment in all new developments.

The Chair suggested the group review the Mail Theft outreach poster and advise if it needs any updates. Once done, staff can send it out again.

ACTION: Staff will forward the mail theft poster to the group for review and edits as needed.

- iii. Cyber Awareness (education initiative)
Nathan Balasubramanian, Tanya Gabara, Fraser Holland, Shishan Johnstone, Heather Giuriato

Mr. Balasubramanian advised that October is Cyber Awareness Month. He explained that Cyber Canada has excellent educational content and

suggested that the CPC use their awareness poster to promote the initiative. He noted it covers several topics and include issues the group has discussed promoting in the past.

The group agreed and supported the distribution of the Cyber Canada “Cyber Awareness Month” poster.

Mr. Balasubramanian will forward the poster to staff.

ACTION: Staff will distribute the poster and the DLBA and Chamber of Commerce representatives will share on their channels as well.
The Manager of Community Safety will bring copies of the poster to the Neighbourhood meetings as well.

iv. **Crime Prevention Mosaic – deferred to October meeting**
Brian Doyle, Fraser Holland (on reserve: Tanya Gabara & Heather Giuriato)

v. **Bike Security (inform and educate)**
Don Osborne, Natalie Selvage, Harvey Michaluk
Presentation from Chair Albrecht on behalf of Mr. Osborne & Michaluk

The Chair advised that Mr. Osborn & Mr. Michaluk created powerpoints to share their research regarding bike usage and security with the group. He reviewed the points noting that the overarching message is that there are very few, if any, secure places to safely lock up bikes in the City and although people enjoy biking, they will not utilize them to their full capacity downtown until there are secure places to park the them.

ACTION: He asked the committee members to review the powerpoints and prepare feedback to provide for the next meeting as Mr. Osborne plans to put forward a motion asking for Council to consider secure bike storage options.

The group discussed some ideas which included:

- Partner with businesses and provide incentives, to install more modern and secure bike racks
- Upgrade current bike racks to make more secure
- Install bike storage lockers
- Bike Valets (with onsite storage lockers)
- Committee members volunteering to run a bike valet at a future events to promote the overall use of bikes
- Improve bike storage situation before the arrival of skytrain.

The Chair noted that he can facilitate an invitation to TransLink to attend a CPC meeting to discuss bike usage, storage options, security and the impact that the arrival of skytrain could have on bike usage in our community. Members agreed that could be useful.

ACTION: Chair will invite TransLink to a future committee meeting.

ACTION: Staff will add this item to the October agenda for more discussion and when Mr. Osborne is present.

b) Crime Prevention Poster - Outreach Project
Feedback / Approval / Other Action

- Neighbourhood Watch Poster – Mr. Doyle
Awaiting revisions as noted at May 2023 meeting.
This item will be added to the October agenda for review.

c) RCMP Crime Map Analysis – July & August 2023
S/Sgt Sidhu

S/Sgt Sidhu reviewed the July and August crime analyst maps noting that there was a 25% increase in block watch areas since January. As is evident on the maps, Block Watch increases safety and decreases crime in neighbourhoods. He noted that the Block Watch Coordinator will be attending the neighborhood meetings as well.

Discussion continued about current crime trends.

It was noted that the RCMP are doing extra patrols for the next 6 months in parks and areas where they have seen increases in crime. Patrols will be on foot, by bike and by car. This is at no cost to the City as it is provincially funded.

4) FOR DISCUSSION

- a) Consider Rescheduling the October Meeting Date
- From Thursday, October 26 to
 - Wednesday, October 25

The date conflicts with the Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards event.

Staff will send an outlook calendar invite with the proposed date.

- b) Invitation to Langley City Select Committees – Neighbourhood Meetings
Dave Selvage, Manager of Community Safety

The Manager of Community Safety explained what the meetings are about and invited volunteers from the CPC to host a table to promote crime prevention initiatives. Meetings are from 6pm-8pm.

ACTION: Members were asked to contact the Manager of Community Safety if they are interested in hosting the CPC table at any of the meetings.

ACTION: The DLBA and Chamber representatives were asked to share the Neighbourhood Meeting poster included in the agenda to their respective contacts.

Members volunteered to host a table as follows:

October 5 – Douglas Park Elementary School – Mr. Balasubramanian

October 11 – Alice Brown Elementary School – tbd
October 19 – Nicomekl Elementary School – Ms. Kydd
October 24 – Blacklock Elementary School - Ms. Giuriato

Other members were encouraged to attend. They can contact the Manager of Community Safety for more details if needed.

- c) 2024 Committee Appointments
Paula Kusack, Deputy Corporate Officer

Members were invited to return to the 2024 CPC and asked to advise the Deputy Corporate Officer by email at their earliest opportunity.

Ms. Selvage advised that she will be graduating next year and will not be available to continue as the Youth Representative.

ACTION: S/Sgt Sidhu also offered to help with recruitment through the RCMP school programs.

5) FOR INFORMATION

- a) 2023 CPC Annual Work Plan

6) ROUND TABLE

ACTION: Ms. Selvage offered to create a poster to share online and send to schools to help recruit a new youth representative. She will include a QR code to link to the committee application on the website.

The Chair advised that there is a National Truth and Reconciliation Day event this weekend at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum. He encouraged members to attend.

It was MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 7:25pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

Certified Correct:
pdk

DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER