

**Los Angeles Police Department
Van Nuys Area
Community Police Advisory Board Minutes
October 12, 2023
www.vannuyscpab.org**

Attendees:

Captain III Alejandro Vargas
Sergeant II Maria Pedroza
Senior Lead Officer Jose Saldana
Senior Lead Officer Mariana Romo
Senior Lead Officer Joel Gutierrez
Senior Lead Officer Mike Perez
Senior Lead Officer George Lara
Officer III Andrew Trock
Officer Evlin Akserelian

Co-Chair Andrea Jones
Zeferino Agraz
Jorge Banos
Wendy Barnard
Bradford Bricken
Robert Cupples

Robert Danelen
Penny Gilbert
David Kopelev
Sean Kurzweil
Penny Meyer
Ruth Nunez

Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Captain Vargas. He welcomed all in attendance.

Captain's Crime and Divisional Update:

Captain Vargas spoke about division crime statistics. While crime has been low in the past two weeks, Van Nuys division and the LAPD continue to be low on personnel. Officers continue to work hard to keep the community safe. We have been having a rise in neighbor dispute radio calls. Officers have been referring citizens to the city mediation and intervention program and have also been reaching out the Senior Lead Officers for assistance. He has reached out to the City and asked to implement the GRYD Program in Van Nuys Division to help with ongoing gang issues. Starting November 1, 2023, the CIRCLE Team will be responding to calls in the south area of Van Nuys Division (Sherman Oaks). Van Nuys Officers have been providing extra patrol at the Temples due to current issues in Israel. He has spoken to Los Angeles Police Commission to have representatives come to our CPAB meeting and hear about the police and our department from the community members.

Committee Reports:

Blight Abatement: Penny Meyer announced the Blight committee has a cleanup on Saturday, November 4, 2023, with Officer Perez on Delano St. between Van Nuys Blvd. and Tyrone Ave.

Outreach: Nothing to report.

Teen CPAB: Ruth Nunez announced Teen CPAB will be helping the with candy packaging for Halloween event.

SLO Reports:

Office Romo: Officer Romo thanked all the committee members who came out and helped with the 1st Annual Van Nuys Division 5K. She spoke about the flash mob robberies and the task force that is in place and how it has helped with lowering thefts throughout the city. She also reminded the committee members about the Sherman Oaks Street Fair on October 15, 2023.

Officer Perez: Officer Perez spoke about the Van Nuys Cruise Nights and how they have not been holding any events in Van Nuys Division since September due to the participants and event host getting ticketed. The Senior Leads have worked with Sanitation and Council District 6 on cleaning up Aetna Street and now they must stay on top of it to keep it clean.

Officer Gutierrez: Officer Gutierrez thanked the City Council for helping with the clean up on Aetna Street. They were able to house 54 out of 60 individuals. There is a protest planned for October 13, 2023, on Aetna Street from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Office Lara: Officer Lara had the area of Sherman Circle and Gault Street cleaned up with the help of the City Council. He is working with the local businesses to continue to monitor the location and to keep it clean. He also cleaned up the area around Valley Presbyterian Hospital.

Officer Trock: Officer Trock introduced himself and advised the committee members that he is the temporary Senior Lead Officer covering for Officer Whitey.

New Business:

Nominations for new Co-Chair for 2024.

Announcements & Upcoming Events:

Van Nuys Division Halloween Event on October 27, 2023 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Government Representatives:

Brian Patton (CD 6 Field Deputy): CD6 has helped clean up most of the graffities along Van Nuys Blvd. and the medians along Van Nuys Blvd. There is a Community Health Fair in Van Nuys on October 14, 2023, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. CD6 is also working with DWP in trying to replace the lights that have been out around Van Nuys Division.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The next CPAB meeting will be November 9, 2023. Notification will be sent to members and posted on social media.