

Santa Cruz Neighbors Meeting
May 21, 2008
7pm – 9pm
Police Community Room
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz

Welcome and Introductions: Kathryn Tobisch opened meeting introduced herself, Deborah Elston & JD Sotelo. She gave a brief talk on Santa Cruz Neighbors. Thirty + people were in attendance. Tonight's subject is Neighborhood Reports. In attendance was Deputy Police Chief Kevin Vogel.

Neighborhood Reports

Frank & Kate, Beach Hill- Thinks are good last few months and PD has been helpful. Their meetings are once a month. Parking has been difficult, in particular Van/Box trucks, K. Vogel to follow up.

David T, Lower Westside- Has observed more PD patrols. Brought up four items--

1. Delaware Project will be having traffic impacts, a proposal is to reroute construction vehicles.

2. New Leaf Store groundbreaking.

3. PCS in stalled negotiations with School District regarding use of Westside facilities.

4. Traffic & Transportation regarding motorcycles, lots of discussion & suggestions. This is the website referred to for follow up <http://www.noiseoff.org> and introduced is a proposal for red curbs at Ingalls & Fair.

Deb commented that the red curbs is a public works issue and she also mentioned that there is a public meeting for Mission Hill and a dedicated bike way. Additionally the Bay Street reservoir replacement project and its impact was discussed

At this point Kathryn did a brief re-introduction for late comers.

Anthony, Morrissey Blvd- Discussed the preliminary proposal by Resource Center for Nonviolence collaborating with Barrios Unidos for a proposed development at 1817 Soquel Ave. Their website, still under construction as of this writing, is <http://www.1817soquel.org> . Anthony also gave out their neighbor's website at <http://www.eastmorrissey.org>

Bob, Seabright Ave- Discussed his completion of the CERT program, Community Emergency Response Team. He advises all to participate, it is well worth it! He is trying to organize the east side. More info at <http://www.ci.santa-cruz.ca.us/fd/cert.html>

At this point Deb segued to SC Neighbors next meeting on Fire Safety, present will be SC FD, UC FD & CDF.

Bob added that Graffiti is on the increase.

Morgan, Hageman- Stated that a graffiti artist was apprehended. There was good discussion on this subject.

JD mentioned the Graffiti Free Santa Cruz Program and gave out their phone number, 420-5303. Their website is <http://www.ci.santa-cruz.ca.us/ra/Graffiti.html>

Bruce, Riverside- Mentioned the upcoming NOLO meeting at 515 Broadway, development projects and the proposed up coming neighborhood clean-up.

Frank, High St- Mentioned the Highland neighborhood watch and the Edgecliff development.

George, Lance Ct-Reported that Elk & Rooney is a hazardous intersection and there has been some crime activity.

Kaitlin, S. Pacific- Reports that there is ongoing criminal activity at Pacific and Spruce and nearby intersections. A police presence is needed. Dep. Chief Vogel noted for PD notification.

Michelle, Morrissey Ave, GEMS- Reports that there is gas siphoning going on, graffiti and mentioned that motorcycles are loud on her street. Gault School is continually hit with graffiti. Dep. Chief Vogel says to report any and all problems and to use the '911' line as opposed to 471-1131 as the 911 line will pre-populate the dispatchers screen with the callers info thereby speeding up reporting process.

Bruce asks questions regarding alleys in the city and drug activity on those properties. DC Vogel says to call PD.

Pastor Steve, Circle Church- Says the Church is having difficult ongoing problems with gangs and vagrants. His website is <http://thecirclechurch.org>

And finally Bill C showed up late and talked of ongoing litigation and certain organizations that are not obeying the rule of law. Kathryn notified Bill that we were not an organization that takes a political stance and his remarks were out of place.

Chief Kevin Vogel – “ I checked on the language in the statute pertaining to hands free cell phone use that takes effect on July 1dt. The statute specifically refer to motor vehicles, therefore bicyclists will not be required to utilize a hands-free device when using a cell phone. “

Kathryn closed meeting thanked all for their participation and for attending. Next meeting on Fire Prevention and Safety will be held WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, COMMUNITY ROOM - 155 Center Street, 7PM - 8:30PM.

Submitted by JD Sotelo