Public Safety Committee Meeting
April 17, 2018

Minutes

PRESENT: Yahay Obeid, Chair; Veronica Castro and Estella Foley.

EXCUSED: Keith Ramsey

ABSENT: Eliezer Rodriguez, and Joseph Thompson

GUESTS: Joe McManus, Awad Mohamed, Gene De Frances, PO Janine Varela, PO Grossett, Michael Buitrago and Osamah Alsiwi.

The meeting started at 7:15 pm.

The committee plans on inviting staffers from the offices of the elected officials to discuss funding for security cameras. Joe McManus was in attendance and reiterated that Councilman Ritchie Torres will support the initiative with funds. Joe asked what type of Cameras are we requesting, red light, speeding, or security. We advised him that we are pursuing security cameras. This initiative will involve the NYPD since they will most likely select the best areas for these cameras to be placed. We will work with the NYPD to provide our input.

Guest Gene De Francis mentioned that we can also look at another initiative as well, which involves getting grants for local businesses to place cameras outside their businesses. This initiative would also help businesses upgrade their systems if they have outdated systems.
We briefly discussed whether to invite the supervisor from the 911 call center to the general board meeting for a short briefing and to answer any questions the board members might have.

The supervisor who gave the tour offered to come to our meeting and give out flyers with public safety some tips.

NCOs from Sector Adam gave the committee a short briefing. They advised that crime is down but there is an increase in tire/rim thefts (Borough wide) as well as car burglaries (Sacket/E Tremont/Waters Place). They also advised that they are receiving a lot of quality of life complaints (graffiti and smoking weed).

The NCOs will be meeting with school principals and will ask what the schools are doing to educate students on public safety. Topics will include; when to call 911 and knowing their parents’ names and addresses.

They offered to give the committee and the public a briefing on national disaster preparation. We told them we have a concern with not getting enough attendees. The committee will discuss this in next month's meeting.

A guest said he has called the NCOs and 911 about people smoking weed in the park. The NCOs asked him to call them next time and leave a message so they can return his call.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Minutes taken by Yahay Obeid, formatted by Staff.