

**North Las Vegas Police Department
Chief's Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
May 8th, 2006**

ATTENDEES

Chief Paresi	Laura Marscheck	Dan Morris
Ted Johnson	Connie Holtmann-Spangler	Santiago Rodriguez
John O'Carroll	Dana Phillips	Al Greer
Mimi Devore-Rigg	Florence Buchanan	Susan Sayegh
John Baker		

ABSENT

Kamal Asnani	Dwayne Miller	Chelsi Cheatom
Gregory Troutman	Pamela Phillips	Guido Mantilla

GUEST SPEAKERS

**Sgt. Heidi Campbell, Officer Jackie Gravatt, Officer Richard Rodriguez - Recruitment
Officer Tim Bedwell - Public Information Officer**

- 1) Connie greeted the Council and asked if anyone had issues to bring up for the round robin.
 - Susan stated that her HOA is interested in having the Captain speak with them as there have been a lot of break-ins lately. Chief Paresi advised her to contact Acting Captain Larotonda along with Kenny Young and Assistant City Manager Maryann Ustick.
- 2) Chief Paresi said that there has been a discussion about the workload in the Northwest and of realigning the troops. Crime has increased 40% in the Northwest while there is a decrease of 2% in the South.

He also spoke highly of the Honor Guard that participated in the Police Memorial up in Carson City. Comments were made about how professional the Honor Guard presented themselves.

This was a busy weekend. Taste & Tunes went very well. Over 25,000 people were in attendance. The three officers involved in the shooting are doing okay. There was only about a total of 8 years of service between them. The suspect is still in the hospital.

The Olympia land takedown went through and is now in the design stage. They will be building at N 5th and Elkhorn. Construction should start soon also on the new Station Casino at Elkhorn and Aliante.

The current Citizen Academy graduates in a few weeks.

The Department has been heavily stressed with long hours and a heavy call load. With all of this, there has not been a lot of issues with the public. Eighteen officers are in the second phase of field training. There are 23 in the academy and should graduate in August. There will also be 27 in the advanced academy in August.

The supplemental budget goes to the City Council next week. The Chief will report back in June on its status. The budget for 2006/2007 is \$101 million due, in part, to the phenomenal growth in the Department.

- 3) Officer Bedwell did a presentation on the new recruitment website www.joinnlvdpd.com. He showed some of the highlights of the website as well as a statistical overview of the number of hits since the launch of the website. If you have any suggestions or comments to improve the website please email him at bedwellt@cityofnorthlasvegas.com.
- 4) Sgt. Campbell and Officer Gravatt gave a presentation on the NLVPD Recruitment efforts. Officer Rodriguez demonstrated the Recruitment Vehicle. Applications are being accepted now for the next test in June. If you know of anyone interested in becoming a police officer, please have them contact the Recruitment Unit for more information.
- 5) Chief Paresi and Connie thanked all the visitors for their wonderful presentations.
- 6) Chief Paresi explained that this is only a part of what the Department is doing. There is a tremendous number of lateral interests. He cautioned about the problems associated with accepting laterals.

One issue we'll be facing is affordable housing. Subsidized housing may have to be looked at as a City issue. We'll continue to search for other options to get the people to come work for North Las Vegas. We are learning to market ourselves.

- 7) Al asked if we did any recruitment at UNLV. Chief Paresi said we had, but have not been very successful there. He stated that we would keep trying. We are looking for a higher educated work force; a diverse group of people; also talented and mature people. Recruitment is about quality not quantity.

Al asked if the security guards are union or not. Chief Paresi stated that it depends on where they work. If we get a lead on a good security officer, we try to get them on board.

- 8) Connie stated that the recruitment presentation was part one of a three part series in showing from point A to point B to point C of how a recruit becomes an officer. She then asked if anyone had any other thoughts or comments.
 - John O. talked about people assuming they need a criminal justice degree to become a police officer. He was told that this is not the case and that it says that a GED or H.S. diploma is all the education needed on the Recruitment website.
 - John B. asked if in the future a criminal justice degree would be needed. Chief Paresi said no that it is best to have degrees in a wide range of areas which brings in different ideas. He did state that we are requiring degrees for the higher ranks.
 - Al said that we tend to relate to people that we have something in common with. It may serve to show how people have changed careers to become police officers. This might be a good recruitment tool to draw people in who don't have any law enforcement background. Chief Paresi thought that was a very good idea, which he will bring to the recruitment people.
- 9) Chief Paresi advised that we are hosting the Northwestern University with several of our top people attending along with people from other agencies. He was asked who paid for sending staff to the school. He explained that each agency pays for their own people and since we are

hosting the school we get a couple of free seats.

- 10) At the next meeting, Chief Paresi will update us about the budget and the direction we will be going, the issues we will be dealing with, and where we will be focusing.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JUNE 12th AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE NORTHWEST
AREA COMMAND ON WASHBURN & ALLEN.**