



COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY TASK FORCE

Held July 24, 2002
5:30 pm, Room 2.002
Richmond City Hall

In Attendance:

Robert Aldcorn, Brenda Karp, James Lavery, Vince Miele, Mark Scott, Bill Sorenson, Florence Gordon, Mary Campbell, Max Tondowsky, Cllr. Linda Barnes, Shawn Issel

Absent:

Lisa Dorian

1. Next Meeting

Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting dated July 24, 2002 have been approved.

The next meeting has been set for August 21, 2002, at 5:30 pm in City Hall meeting room 2.002.

2. New Member

The Chair introduced a new member to the Task Force, Fred Eaton the representative from YVR.

3. Representation from Asian Community and youth

A discussion took place among committee members about how to include representation from the Asian community and youth.

ACTION: It was decided that this would be decided at a later date, once the work plan for the Task Force was developed.

4. Goal Setting

The Task Force members went through a round table brainstorming session to generate ideas that could be used in developing a set of goals and objectives. The following statement from one of the Task Force members, *'Bringing the community back into taking responsibility for the general safety and welfare of the community'* was used as a guiding principle.

It was agreed that the Chair, Bob Aldcorn and the Staff Liaison, Shawn Issel would group the notes into themes and bring them back to the next meeting. These notes are attached to the minutes.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 21st, at 5:30 p.m. in meeting room 2.002

Bringing the community back into taking responsibility for the general safety and welfare of the community

Advocates in the community for community safety

- 1) Process
 - a) Delivering information re: service more effectively
 - b) Determine what the community expects from city safety services
 - c) Should the City partner with the community?
 - d) Take the message out to the community
 - i) e.g. community meeting
 - ii) flyer
 - e) Community conference
 - i) Look at hosting a town hall meeting(s)
 - ii) Communication strategy for key safety messages
 - f) newspapers (incl. ethnic newspapers)
 - g) website
 - h) Blockwatch – utilize the system
- 2) Develop strategy to involve Asian community
- 3) Content – examples:
 - a) educating the community about the issues and challenges involved in the delivery of public safety services
 - b) Promote business watch
 - c) Promote Homesafe Program
 - d) Riskwatch

Community education

- 1) Perhaps we could consider educational programs such as free clinics in CPR, pamphlets, and articles on issues such as emergency preparedness that can be run in the community newspapers. In addition, we may want to consider if Volunteer Richmond could get involved in any of these programs/projects to help keep costs to a minimum.
- 2) Pet and child safety in cars
- 3) Special events (Halloween) safety initiatives
- 4) provide info sheets to residents on subjects such as break-ins
- 5) have drop in sessions for specific topics
- 6) Crosswalks – need to educate people on city's philosophy of crosswalks
- 7) educating the public re: traffic safety issues
- 8) Neighbour to neighbour dispute resolution

Community Consultation

- 1) Through a distribution of surveys and holding town hall meetings, we can "take the temperature" of the community. When people think of safety, often they think of it as it

relates predominantly to criminal activity. However, there are more factors which can put a strain on the City's human and financial resources. Thus, the surveys should contain a balance of all issues that relate to safety. They can serve not only as a measurement tool, but one of creating awareness as well. In terms of cost, perhaps we could partner with the community papers to distribute them that way. In addition, we could consider translating the surveys into Cantonese and Mandarin and run them in the Chinese papers in order to capture a larger community population. These types of issues can also be done through town hall meetings and focus groups with a good cross-section of the community.

- 2) Find out from the community what the 'big' issues are for them

Community involvement

- 1) Perhaps we can provide advice on how to implement a "neighbourhood watch" program. These programs are useful for more than just deterring criminal activity. Other factors could be checking in on elderly neighbours, smoke detection if a neighbour is on vacation, etc.
- 2) Community Chaplaincy
 - a) Victim services
 - b) Support for community
- 3) Volunteering

Partnerships

- 1) Working with non-profit agencies
- 2) Role of insurance in motivating people to focus on safety
- 3) Bank who holds mortgage – motivate safe behaviour
- 4) WCB – interest in safe community concept
- 5) Recognizing people's contribution to community (i.e.) earn homeowners grant
- 6) Low flying aircraft over residential areas – a safety issue, not a noise issue
- 7) Strategies to restore public's confidence in courts system

Youth Initiative

- 1) Youth services
 - a) Research existing youth services and recent changes
 - b) Richmond Family Place
 - c) Richmond Youth Services
- 2) Parks/Rec & Culture
 - a) Youth Programming
 - b) Develop strategy to involve youth
- 3) Restorative justice

Transportation

- 1) Enforcement of speed limits in school zones – fines
- 2) Need to look at safety driving ticketing
- 3) Integration of bikes and cars (bikes on sidewalks)
- 4) Cyclists/Transportation

Barrier Free Initiatives

- 1) Bylaw enforcement
 - a) Sidewalk – impediments

- b) Sandwich boards, garbage cans
- 2) Building – once occupied continuing to be barrier free (for disabled access) (Fire inspections?)

Other Issues

- 4) Bylaw enforcement 24 hrs/day
 - a) dogs, music, parties, car mufflers, alarms, etc.
 - b) liveability
- 5) Review parks policing policies – Fri & Sat nights – people in after 11pm
- 6) Ban on cosmetic pesticides
 - a) Supreme Court ruled municipalities have the right to ban
 - b) Port Coquitlam pursuing

Future Agenda Items - Updates to CSATF

- 1) Water rescue – need update
- 2) Need more info on impact of major earthquake – city staff should explain effects of major disaster
- 3) Emergency Preparation
 - a) What's available for people with disabilities
 - b) Update