

RICHMOND CITIZENS CRIME WATCH
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2006
Richmond City Hall
Rm. M.1.003

1. ROLL CALL

Belley, S.	Gallvitz, D.	Martell, B.	Vicze, G.
Chahal, D.	Ginevsky, A.	Sayle, M.	Yamasaki, B.
Chan, R.	Hall, S.	Schattner, E.	Cpl. G. Bhayani
Dick, V.	Hickey, B.	Scott, S.	Cst. B. Edwards
Englouen, J.	Lanji, V.	Sutherland, D.	A. Lee (ICBC)

2. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by V. Lanji at 19:10 hrs.

3. VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

The statements were read by V. Lanji.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by G. Vicze to approve the agenda, seconded by M. Sayle.

5. GUEST SPEAKER – CPL. G. BHAYANI (RCMP)

- Cpl. Bhayani is a member of the Crime Reduction Unit (plain clothes section)
- Crime Watch has contributed to the success of the Gateway parking metre operation – suspects were caught with tools that matched damage on metres.
- Maps – Cpl. Bhayani displayed maps of hot spots for theft of/form auto and metal theft – showing areas to focus on.
- The major focus now for the Crime Reduction Unit is metal theft. Crime Watch should let Cpl. Bhayani know if we see anything suspicious. Calls to 911 from Crime Watch are taken more seriously than from the general public.

6. GUEST SPEAKER – ALEX LEE (ICBC)

- YTD stats for Richmond show significant reductions in Theft from Auto, Theft of Auto, and Vandalism. Currently, VW Passatts and Dodge Caravans are the most common vehicles that are stolen.
- There is a request for a proposal phase (primary phase) for the Black Box Data Recording Devices, which would be installed into vehicles with “high-risk” owners (i.e. new drivers, etc.) that would record information on distance traveled, speed (during a crash), braking, acceleration,

turn signal usage, seatbelts, etc. A policy change could result if there is found a correlation in the future. Vehicles that are 1996 and newer are already equipped with a port for the box to plug into. The data from the black box would belong to the owner of the vehicle and would only be downloaded by owner's consent.

- D. Sutherland provided an update on insurance coverage for Crime Watch members. He stated that the use of one's own vehicle for a volunteer program is not considered business or commercial use. Instead, it falls under the pleasure use category, meaning that a volunteer does not need to worry about the "to and from work" mileage stipulations in an auto insurance policy.

7. REPORTS

Coordinator – V. Lanji

- We have 12 new members, and there are 10 more to train.
- We have new equipment, radios, etc. from the ICBC fund. D. Sutherland will be sending a letter to Toshiba to inquire about getting more laptops.
- Our main purpose on patrol is to observe and report (to dispatch, then dispatch to 911).
- Volunteers on patrol should be safe and aware of their location and exit (escape) routes at all times. We must also follow proper procedures about reporting incidents.
- Crime Watch has had more special operations, thanks to Cst. Harrison, which included Metal Theft Patrols and Gateway Theatre Stakeouts.
- There was a fairly good turn out on Canada Day. It was not as busy as previous years, perhaps due to the lack of a beer garden at the festival.
- If members cannot make it out for their regular shifts, but are able to volunteer for a stake out, they should let Vena know. For now, we cannot change our regular shift times.

Administration Manager – D. Gallvitz

- There has been an increase in the number of volunteer hours this year from our total last year at this time, thanks to the group of new members who have joined our team. We have also increased our number of shifts per month and are now back up to our regular weekly patrol shifts.
- There has been a decline in the number of plates run during patrols in comparison to last year at this time. This is probably due to our placing more focus on school and business patrols, and our training sessions with new volunteers, where no laptops were used.
- So far this year, Crime Watch has recovered 11 stolen vehicles, up 2 from last year at this time.
- The Crime Watch website is currently being updated. Members will be emailed when the members' area is back up and running. You may check out the website at www.vcn.bc.ca/rccwp

Operations Manager – S. Scott

- There will be a trial day shift set for Monday, July 17th from 09:00 – 14:00 hrs. Alex Lee (ICBC) will also be joining the patrol, and will be offering movie passes to each person in a vehicle that finds a stolen.
- J. Englouen is now a Patrol Supervisor, replacing a recent vacancy.
- There will be an update of the Policy and Procedures manual, to be reviewed at the next executive meeting.

Training Manager – D. Sutherland

- Our new members have been doing an excellent job.
- There will be a list of radio procedure additions emailed to each member. Some of the newer 10-codes that Crime Watch has adopted are as follows:
 - 10-14 Prepare to copy (used by dispatch to units)

- 10-29 Request a Plate Check (units to dispatch)
- 10-40 Possible Hit on SAR (units to dispatch)
- 10-21 Give a land line (call on telephone/cell phone)
- Code-4 Emergency Situation, all other unit stand-by (unit to dispatch and other units)
- Crime Watch will also start using special call signs instead of unit numbers, as follows:
 - V=Volunteer
 - V55 and up will be used for Patrol Supervisors (each supervisor will receive a number)
 - V30 and up will be used for units on patrol
- Remember to use call signs on radios instead of names for radio correspondence.
- Reminder: If you are not on duty, do not say you are with Crime Watch if you call 911 to report a suspicious activity, etc.
- Members who feel they need a refresher may sit in on a training session or make arrangements to go out on patrol with a training officer.

Finance Manager – G. Vicze

- Crime Watch has put in for a gaming grant. This grant would help us to update our laptops to wireless internet, lighted keyboards, etc. We could also use it to purchase bikes to patrol YVR parking lots, etc. We can apply for up to \$100,000. There are 500 grants that are given out to Public Safety.
- Please email Garry if you have any ideas to add to our wish list (must be in by July 31st). The application for the grant must be sent by August 31st. We will also need a letter from ICBC, RCMP, etc. confirming Crime Watch's financial needs and requests.

8. DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- The next general meeting will be held in September. An exact date will be decided on at the next executive meeting. Please note that at the next general meeting voting for executive positions will take place.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made by S. Scott to adjourn the meeting, seconded by D. Sutherland.
- Meeting adjourned at 21:10 hrs.

Minutes recorded by: D. Gallvitz
Administration Manager