

Rancho Bernardo Community Council
Public Safety Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
High Country West Community Center

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm. In attendance: Frank Auwarter, Andrea Thomas, Robin Kaufman, George George, Roger Wolfe, Ralph Parris, Gary Carlson, Paul Lennon, Julie Classen.
2. Approval of minutes: no minutes from last meeting.
3. George George gave brief fire update report. The County has made initial move forward for fire protection. Diane Jacobs is seeking means of fire protection. Jeff Bowman has suggested hiring a company from N. CA to gather information for a ballot measure in 2010, which is being supported by Diane Jacobs.
4. Police Report by Paul Lennon, RB's Community Relations Officer: warning to all residents of a situation recently occurring in Scripps Ranch – individuals are obtaining SDG&E shirts, ringing doorbells saying they need access to the A/C. SDG&E does not send employees to homes without making appointments. If this occurs to you, report it immediately. These people are trying to get access to your home to rob.
 - Problems at the RB Community Park outside bathrooms is on the rise again. For years, it has been a publicized meeting location for married men to have brief encounters with other married men. If someone suspects or sees such an encountered, contact the police immediately.
 - Water soaker guns are being converted to conceal shotguns. The water soaker gun is taken apart and altered to allow the shotgun to be encased within the water gun, and to remain fully functional.
 - credit card and identity theft is on the rise. Undetectable vehicle burglaries occur when people leave their wallets in their car when they are at the gym. Thief will only take one credit card, leaving the wallet behind, so the person does not suspect anything until they go to use the credit card or receive their statement. Best not to leave wallet or other items in the vehicle. If a person does, hide items in the vehicle before arriving at final destination where people can observe you putting items in your vehicle.
 - There is a rise of 14-25 year olds using oxycodone to get high. The pills can be purchased on the street at \$50-80 per pill. They heat the pill and inhale the fumes for full effect.
 - there was a series of burglaries in Carmel Mountain condos. Police went undercover and were able to catch the thieves.

5. Presentation on the San Diego Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): Julie Claasen.

-Julie began by announcing RB presently has more CERT members than most other communities. This is most likely due to the 2007 fires which was a wake up call for most people. CERT saw this in Scripps after the 2003 fires.

-Julie gave a brief history of CERT ~ it is a spin off of a program developed in Japan. It first started in Los Angeles in 1985, with the first CERT team activated during the Northridge earthquake. RB is part of San Diego City CERT, which run through the fire department, but there is also the County CERT. Coronado was the first County CERT which was developed. The first City of San Diego CERT came after the Cedar fires. There is only one paid employee of CERT, Carie, with all others as volunteers. Fire fighters who teach the academies are paid from CERT funds, which are allotted by the City of San Diego.

-Battalion 7 encompasses Rancho Bernardo, Penasquitos, Scripps, Carmel Mountain, Sabre Springs and Santa Luz.

-What CERT is not: CERT is not first responders. That is always fire fighters and police. CERT does not use fire trucks or police trucks. CERT volunteers use their own vehicles. CERT members are taught how to use fire extinguishers for very small fires such as in garbage cans, stove, etc., but are not presently trained to use other fire fighting equipment.

-CERT training: training is designed to prepare volunteers to take care of themselves, family, neighbors, community in the event of a disaster. A CERT volunteer may be activated in the event of a disaster. If they are activated (being contacted by designated CERT leaders), the volunteer will be covered by CERT. If the person does something on their own, without being activated, they are not covered by CERT. Once activated, the person will report to a pre-designated rally point/location. CERT training is a six week course, meeting once a week for several hours. The course is free, but there is a \$55 cost for materials (manual, backpack full of various items, vest, helmet). Once a person finishes the academy, they receive a Disaster Service Worker Card (DSW) which is good for two years. In order to remain as a CERT volunteer, members are required to participate in ongoing training and monthly meetings. Approximately 1,200 residents have gone through CERT San Diego.

-Basic Information: people are told to be prepared for a minimum of three days in the event of a disaster. Realistically, we have found (ie: Katrina) that it could be much longer. Power, water, police, firefighters will all be delayed in the event of a disaster and everyone should be prepared to be on their own. CERT teaches ways to assist until help arrives. San Diego is

isolated/limited if we need to evacuate due to water to the west, Mexico to the south, LA (which may also be impacted) to the north.

-Some things CERT members did during the '07 fires: delivered water, food, pick up trucks. Staffed the 211 lines, delivered breathing masks to fire stations, transported firefighters to their stations, helped with traffic control, helped at evacuation centers, helped unload trucks, set up first aide stations, etc.

6. Other matters – no other matters.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectively submitted by Robin Kaufman