

## RIVERPARK NWP MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 3/19/2008 Meeting Time: 6:30 PM Start Time: 6:35 PM End Time: 8:00 PM

Attendees:  Hee-Sook Nelson  Cindy Le  Steve Leahy  
 Bill Young  Jerome Staszewski  Jenae Leahy  
 Bridgit Staszewski  Lena Kennedy  Mark Lang  
 Monica Welch  Kyu Hwang  Alex Rangel  
 Randy Howard  Dan Casse, OPD  Jeff and Miranda Nobriga  
 Rich and Amanda Tenold  Veronica Chavez, GAP  Cyndi Hookstra

Speaker: Cindy Le Title: Watch Coordinator

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter patrol schedule is out; if you'd like to be a part of the patrols please let Cindy know so she can add you to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter schedule.

Speaker: Cyndi Hookstra & Veronica Chavez Title: Graffiti Action Program Representatives

March 2005 the graffiti task force was formed, the city of Oxnard has zero tolerance for graffiti. GAP is based on three key elements.

### Prevention

- o Community Outreach
- o Addressing at the elementary school age and older

### Intervention

- o Community Service required when prosecuted- GAP asks the tagger to pay the city back through community service hours and financial restitution.
- o Parents are held financially accountable for tagging if the taggers are juveniles.
- o Neighborhood Clean-Up

### Enforcement

- o There is a five day deadline of graffiti clean-up for businesses.
- o GAP employs 2 full-time graffiti detectives.
- o GAP people are responsible for cataloging photos of graffiti.
- o The City of Oxnard has set the pace for graffiti programs and has been the model for other cities.
- o All of the cities in the County of Ventura will eventually have the same enforcement laws for graffiti.

The City of Oxnard spends about \$750,000 on graffiti removal per year. The city has four separate teams of people who concentrate on graffiti removal.

GAP suggests if you are tagged at your private residence you should remove the graffiti ASAP, as you are more likely to have paint to match your home than the city does. Taggers are now using corrosives and evolving into different types of paint that are harder to remove. GAP only carries the basic color paints to remove graffiti.

Kyu asked why the city does not have cameras in place where graffiti is most prevalent. Cyndi stated that first, it is very costly, and second, the taggers do not care if there are cameras. She also stated most of the time, even if there is a camera present; it is often hard to identify the guilty party. Taggers are often disguised in hooded sweatshirts. The average age of a tagger is 13-16 years old.

Statistics show that the longer the tag stays up the more apt the tagger will be to repeat themselves. Cyndi also stated that the monikers should be removed within 24-48 hours.

During the last week alone, the hotline handled 180 calls.

The graffiti website is [www.oxnardwatch.org](http://www.oxnardwatch.org)

Graffiti Hotline is 805 385-8010

City e-mail address is [stopgraffiti@ci.oxnard.ca.us](mailto:stopgraffiti@ci.oxnard.ca.us)

Cyndi commended the Riverpark Neighborhood Watch for forming so early on.

**Speaker:** Dan Casse **Title:** Officer, Oxnard Police Department

- Stated that there has been no reported crime other than construction site material theft and a car break in.
- Officer Casse also gave out his business cards and offered his assistance if anyone ever needed him.
- Officer Casse offered to take anyone out on a ride-along at anytime.

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**Approvals:**

Signature on file      Date: 3/24/08

Hee-Sook Nelson  
Community Coordinator

signature on file      Date: 3/24/08

Cindy Le  
Watch Coordinator