



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

Pacifica Police Department

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MAYOR PRO TEM
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COUNCIL
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City of Pacifica

Illegal Fireworks Task Force Committee

Minutes from meeting of Monday, March 20, 2017

Chief Steidle called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Present: Chief Dan Steidle, Mayor Mike O'Neill, Gina Del Vecchio, Tonia Boykin, Dave Mercurio, PL Domingo, Milton Broussard, Lynn Adams, Patrick Chiechi, Chris Porter

The committee appointed Chief Steidle as Committee Chair and Patrick Chiechi as Vice-Chair

Each member of the committee introduced themselves.

The committee discussed a meeting day time for future meetings. It was decided that the meetings of the Illegal Fireworks Task Force Committee would be on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM, at the Pacifica Police Department.

Chief Steidle provided a presentation on the history of fireworks in Pacifica, including the increased calls for service numbers related to the 4th of July, and the problem areas in Pacifica for illegal fireworks activity.

The committee reviewed the direction of the City Council in regards to what the committee was to accomplish:

“The purpose of the Illegal Fireworks Task force is to discuss options regarding:

- 1) Enforcement strategies to combat illegal fireworks and;**
- 2) Public outreach strategies to educate and deter people from possession and using illegal fireworks.”**

The committee discussion resulted in several ideas and topics for further discussion and research:

- The possibility of increasing the “Ouch” fine from \$1,000 for possession of illegal fireworks (Chief Steidle will discuss the legality with the City Attorney)

- Insurance companies: Are insurance companies interested in this issue when their clients use illegal fireworks on insured properties? Is there the potential of using this as a leverage/community education component? (Ms. Del Vecchio to research)
- Can the City place mailers in utility bills for the purpose of educating residents regarding fines for possessing illegal fireworks?
- Can we utilize a smartphone application to take photographs (or video) of violations to use for the issuance of an administrative citation by the police department?
- Increase education in the community regarding what fireworks are legal and which are not.
- Conducting a press conference prior to July 4th to educate the community (and surrounding communities) regarding illegal fireworks laws in Pacifica.
- Distribution of flyers educating the community regarding illegal fireworks at local Pacifica schools.

Dennis Revell from Revell Communications spoke regarding the “Nail’em” smartphone application. Community members can report illegal fireworks activity to the Police Department via this application. Mr. Revell advised the application is free for community members to use, and free for the City to use and set-up. Chief Steidle will be contacting jurisdictions that have used the application to obtain feedback.

Chief Steidle reported that the first draft of the proposed Social Host Ordinance pertaining to illegal fireworks is almost completed. The ordinance would allow officers to administratively cite persons residing at or in charge of a gathering on private property, if illegal fireworks are being used on the property. Chief Steidle advised he would email a draft of the ordinance to the committee prior to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2032 hours.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 6:00 PM
Pacifica Police Department
2075 Coast Highway
Pacifica, CA 94044