

51 DIVISION COMMUNITY POLICE LIAISON COMMITTEE
Town Hall Meeting
Wednesday, April 13, 2011
Wellesley Community Centre
495 Sherbourne Street, Toronto

Attendance

TPS 51 Division Unit Commander	Supt John Tanouye
TPS 51 Division CRU S/Sgt	S/Sgt Rudy Pasini
TPS 51 Division, Traffic	Sgt Rob Brice
TPS 51 Division , Traffic	Con. Joe Shand
TPS 51 Division, Traffic	Con. Hugh Smith
CPLC 51 Division, Co-Chair	Deb Devgan
CPLC 51 Division, Secretary	Cathy Waiten

Call to Order: At approximately 6:30 PM the 51 CPLC Town Hall meeting was called to order by Supt. John Tanouye.

Co-Chair's Report

Deb Devgan welcomed guests to the annual Town Hall meeting and the Wellesley Community Centre.

Reminder that residents and businesses that the 51 Division CPLC is here for all, should there be any issues to report to or assistance required from the officers of 51 Division. She noted that brochures are available at the back and that these will be distributed to community centres, public and private establishments in the Division. It was noted that meetings are usually held at the Division on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. May's meeting will be offsite. Contact S/Sgt. Pasini's office for the update on the June and September meetings. (or insert my report from 'She noted...')

The Co-Chair referenced this month's Bulletin, with an article on p.8 titled 'Youth, mental health and gala on 51 Div. CPLC Agenda'.

An update on events and activities was provided:

- BBQ in Regent Park at the beginning of May 7th
- Open House and BBQ at the Division on May 28thTBC.
- Encouraging youth to attend CPLC meetings to develop a line of communication with the CPLC and our officers.
- CPLC *Building Bridges* Gala Steering Committee is working hard on plans for the 3rd annual fundraiser to be held in November at the Corus Building on Queen's Quay. We work to raise scholarship funds for 51 Division students in need to attend George Brown College.

At this time Supt. Tanouye welcomed the group and introduced the traffic and safety officers present noting that the evening will focus on traffic and bike safety

- Sgt. Rob Brice – Traffic Services
- Constable Joe Shand – Traffic Services – Child Car Safety
- Constable Hugh Smith – Traffic Services – Support Operations

Supt. Tanouye spoke about the following:

- Bike safety workshop will be part of the Regent Park BBQ on May 7th
- General traffic and road safety will be part of the March Break Program
- Operation Impact – Step up and be safe
- Last Call campaign on cell phone use while driving is up and running
- 51 Division's own program to reduce gridlock is underway

- Regent Park community consultation found three common objectives – building trust, increasing feelings of safety and security, creating opportunities for residents on overall relationship building.
- Reminded residents to sign up for TPS.

S/Sgt Pasini provided a brief update:

- Additional traffic initiatives includes the seatbelt campaign
- Crime overall, within the division, has decreased but breaking and entering occurrences have increased which is generally in line with warmer weather and windows and doors left open.
- 51 is the only division with no shootings although there was one domestic murder.

Sgt Rob Brice reported on traffic activities:

- February 14 – 20 – Last Call campaign netted 685 tickets with 39 tickets issued in the first 90 minutes!
- March 14 – 20 – the Safe Driving campaign held during March break saw 764 tickets issued ~ which is a welcomed decrease from 929 issued last year
- April 13 -23 – Seat Belt campaign is underway
- RIDE – roves throughout the division with a focus on the entrainment areas and Maitland and Jarvis. The high visibility of police in attendance in these areas serves as a deterrent to crime.
- Child Seat program is on-going
- Between January and March 31 there were a total of 553 incidents including 274 for property damage, 91 failure to remain at the scene and 11 injuries. There were no fatalities.

When questioned about division “hot spots” for traffic incidences, he explained that 51 is a high traffic area and, thus, there are “hot spots” throughout.

Con. Joe Shand has been with the traffic division for three years. He works with complaints system (forms available at the station and on line) responding to and investigating complaints such as the chronic ‘failure to yield’ situation at Isabella & Henley, Scott & the Esplanade, King & River Streets, Earl & ?

He spoke about the Child Seat Program which is held in communities where police work with residents on the correct installation of seats and other safety measures such as removing ‘baby on board’ signs and blinds which may break loose and injure children. Clinics are held twice a month which attracts between 18 – 22 residents. Clinics are not advertized: Parents are referred by their hospital.

He explained that

- 95% of seats are not properly installed
- That car seats have expiry date
- To be effective, seats need to be installed at a 45 degree angle

Con. Hugh Smith has been with the Traffic Service for ten years and works primarily in media and communications with Tim Burrows (?). He spoke about:

- The sky rocketing pedestrian fatalities due to mid-block road crossings, pedestrians distracted by head and cell phones and the inability to gauge the speed of oncoming cars and TTC buses
- Cycling accidents primarily due to lane changes
- The growing popularity of electronic bikes as part of the bylaw review for off-road vehicles which also includes inline skating. The new bylaw will provide for significant fines for cycling on the sidewalk (\$80 – 100.00), drivers in bike lanes other than to make turns. There will be extensive communications and education on the bylaw including programs in the schools.
- Problems with bike couriers peak in the spring as new people enter the field, but there is a good level of cooperation with the established companies and individuals.

Debbie Devgan brought questions to a close at 8:30 thanking everyone for attending and the officers for their interesting and very informative presentations.

Next meeting - Wednesday, May 11, 2011 @ 6:30 pm, at HQ for Members Only.