

**Mid City Security District Minutes**  
**Board Meeting of January 18, 2023, 6:00 P.M.**  
**3803 Toulouse Street, New Orleans LA “The Cannery”**

Meeting started at 6:00 P.M.

Attendees: Board Members: Alvin Williams, Charley Richard, David Beran, Robert Rivard (left about 6:45pm )& Wendy Laker (arrived at about 6:40)

Presenters: Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; Larry Jacobi, CPA, MCSD accountant; Capt. Amy Contreras, Commander NOPD 3rd District, Lt. Dean Herrick, Dep. Commander, NOPD 1st District

Others: Tammy Savoie, Jim Olsen, Janet Pickett (*check sign in*)

Roll Call held, quorum present

Meeting called to order by Alvin Williams as vice chair

Motion by R. Rivard to table approval of minutes of last meeting (November 9, 2022) until February seconded by Al Williams, approved by unanimous acclamation.

Motion by A. Williams to modify Agenda to have presentations from Capt. Sandra Contreras, Commander NOPD 3rd District, Lt. Dean Herrick, Dep. Comm. NOPD 1st District before other agenda items: approved by unanimous acclamation.

**Capt. Sandra Contreras**, Commander NOPD 3rd District introduced herself as the new Commander of NOPD 3rd District. Discussed appointment of Interim Superintendent Michelle Woodfork; in response to a question said recent robbery near Palmyra & Murat believed to be related to others.

**Lt. Dean Herrick**, Dep. Comm. NOPD 1st District introduced himself & new 1st Dist. Commander Captain Kendrick Allen who was unable to attend. Said that NOPD is "flooding" Mid City area with a proactive patrol unit. Asked about shotgun discharge on Bienville St. and he said it was discharged by a homeowner.

**Financial Report:**

**Larry Jacobi, CPA**, MCSD accountant distributed Financial Reports and summarized year end position saying that, although MCSD available cash is about \$36,000.00 less than last year we owe about \$200,000 less so we are on sound footing and can continue to pay for the regular available NOPD officers under terms of the CEA and to pay for the Pinnacle private security officers as approved last meeting. Larry discussed the Profit and Loss Budget versus Actual

Mr. Jacobi added that there may be an issue with the audit report as we are over the 2% difference in budgeted income allowed. he pointed to increase in interest income as the main variant.

Mr. Jacobi said that the MCSD Board extended the CEA with city under same terms as the last one

*(NB: this was later corrected by email from Larry on 1/19/23 saying that Lakeview Crime Prevention District but that MCSD on advice of the MCSD attorney the contract has not been extended and we see how LAPD has resolved the millage disagreement with the city.)*

Payments approved by unanimous vote: **Verizon** for phone; **Capital City Press** (TP/Advocate) for publication of required legal notices; **Office of Police Secondary Employment** (OPSE) for security; **Jeanne Zitler** for payment towards auditing the assessor's rolls within the boundaries of the security district; **City of New Orleans** for fees due under CEA; **NOPD** for fees due under CEA; **Adams & Reese** for professional legal services; **Lawrence J. Jacobi**, CPA for professional services.

### **Crime Report**

**Sgt. Alfred Russell**, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator gave report on crimes in the district, presenting the crime maps and reports for Nov 27-Dec 3, Dec. 4-10, Dec. 18 to 24, and Dec. 25 - 31.

Sgt. Russell and Lt. Herrick further discussed violent crime in detail and the crime maps & trends:

**Lt. Dean Herrick** of the NOPD 1st District said that there is a disconnect between media reports of "homicides" and NOPD reports of "murders" as former includes justifiable killings. Acknowledged that even if a killing is justified there is some serious crime going on which necessitates the killing.

Sgt. Russell pointed out triple homicides in or near District in both 2022 and 2023, former being the bicyclists killed in vehicular homicide on Esplanade & latter being the recent drive by shootings on Banks Street near Norman C. Francis.

Lt. Herrick also discussed recent rash of auto thefts, particularly of Kias & Hyundis, adding that the City was making steering locks available through NOPD District HQs to owners of those vehicles who live in the city. Owners can go to any District HQ. call 504 658-6010 to see if available in the 1st.

Lt. Herrick & Sgt. Russell said that auto burglaries have become a greater problem, speculating that burglars are especially looking for firearms. They also pointed out that Cabrini H.S. was recently on lockdown due to burglars in the school parking lot.

Sgt. Russell was asked about a recent report of a man found dead by a gunshot wound in his vehicle near the intersection of Tulane and Carrollton. This incident did not appear on the crime maps. Sgt. Russell explained that evidence indicated that the shooting had taken place outside of MCSD on Airline Highway and that the individual drove to Tulane and Carrollton where he was found deceased.

### **Committee Reports:**

**David Beran**, gave an MCSD vehicle status update reporting that available vehicles at present are sufficient for available officers and that recent maintenance, repair and outfitting costs were about \$50,000.00.

\* \* \* END OF BOB'S NOTES BEGINNING OF WENDY'S \* \* \*

**Wendy Laker** gave a report for the ad hoc By-laws committee saying that the new draft of the By-Laws were sent to MCSD attorney Marshall Hevron for review. He recommended changes and said he would send them to the Board.

**Wendy Laker** gave a report for the Finance Committee, advising that a zoom call with State Rep. Stephanie Hilferty will be scheduled to discuss proposed legislation amending La. R.S. 33§9091.14, the statute which established MCSD. She recapped the proposed changes which deal with MCSD fees.

**Wendy Laker** gave a report for the ad hoc outreach Committee and discussed the meeting of Sgt. Russell, Al Williams and the owners of the Melbas that recently opened at 3219 Tulane Ave. Wendy also spoke about meeting with City Council members Giarusso and Harris, along with Mid City business owners and Sgt. Russell at City Hall to discuss crime and working together to create solutions.

#### **Old Business**

**Wendy Laker** updated the Board on progress with Pinnacle Security and their proposed starting date.

**Wendy Laker** spoke about the progress being made on the review of properties in Mid City through the N. O. Assessor's office. The individual hired to conduct the review is about halfway through the process.

#### **New Business**

**Wendy Laker** requested to reach out to the Mid City Messenger provide information to the public about the hiring of new private patrols to supplement the NOPD patrols provided under the CEA with the city. Charley Richard made a motion to reach out to the Messenger and David Beran seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **Public Comments**

**The public** asked if they had additional questions or comments. There were none.

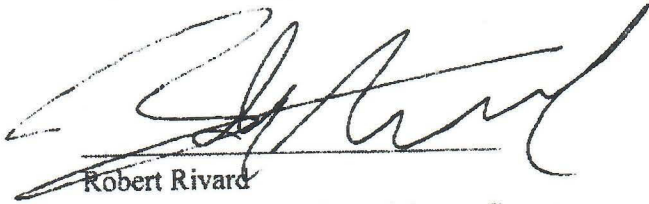
Charley Richard made a motion to adjourn. Al Williams seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.



CERTIFICATE

As a board member of the Mid-City Security District, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes duly and legally adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mid-City Security District, after due notice, and that said minutes have not been rescinded.

WITNESS my signature, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY.



Robert Rivard  
Interim Board Member, acting as Secretary



Wendy Laker  
Chair, acting as Secretary