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Public Safety Committee June 15, 2021 Webex Meetings

## **MINUTES**

PRESENT: Veronica Castro (Chair), Tasneem Aljayyousi, Maleny Lahoz, Yahay Obeid and Eliezer Rodriguez

GUESTS: Crime Prevention Officer Tyrone Mederos (49<sup>th</sup> NYPD Precinct), Naomi Pemberton (BxCB11 Board Member) and Roxanne Delgado, Diana Finch, Sergio Marte and Robert Press (members of the public)

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.

- 1. 49th NYPD Precinct Briefing Officer Mederos reported the following:
  - a. There has been a 25% increase in index crimes year to date
  - b. Crime has increased about 10% from this time last year
  - c. The biggest drivers of crime for the last 28 days have been robberies and grand larcenies
  - d. Felony Assaults are also up in the precinct
  - e. The biggest drivers of crime for the year have been robberies and stolen vehicles. This is a trend happening all over the Bronx
  - f. Shooting incidents and shooting victims are also up for the year. Year to date, there have been seven shooting incidents as compared three incidents this time last year. Year to date, there have been eight shooting victims compared to four shooting victims last year. Shootings have been up all over the city.

In response to recent car thefts on Bronx Park East between Allerton Avenue and Waring Ave, Officer Mederos visited the area and put flyers on parked cars to notify them of the recent thefts. The flyers contained tips on how to prevent one's car from being stolen.

Robert Press asked if the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct would be receiving any ATF officers. The precincts are not privy to such information.

Mr. Press asked if the precinct has decoys at bus stops to catch the individuals assaulting people at bus stops.

Anyone assigned to this patrol is not allowed to operate in plain clothes. Roxanne Delgado asked which bus stops the assaults were happening at as she was not aware of the incidents and suggested that flyers should be put up to alert people.

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Officer Mederos will send her a copy of the flyer he posted on June 6. Ms. Delgado inquired if the shooting at Matthews Avenue and Astor Avenue was related to Pelham Parkway houses or Allerton Avenue.

The Precinct will not give out that kind of information.

Sergio Marte asked where someone could send surveillance video of a crime to the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

Videos could be sent to Officer Mederos, or if there is a specific open complaint, to the detective handling the case.

Officer Mederos offered some crime prevention tips regarding robberies of iPhone products and cash.

Ms. Delgado mentioned that she was contacted by someone on the phone who requested access to her computer to refund her money, but she realized it was a scam.

Officer Mederos confirmed that it is an old scam.

Maleny Lahoz stated she went to place a harassment report and was told by the officer that the report would be put in the garbage because nothing is done for harassment.

Officer Mederos advised reports are filed but there is nothing the officers can do unless they are present and witness the harassment.

Naomi Pemberton asked with more places starting to opening up, if the precinct is prepared to handle any issues that arise.

Officer Mederos advised that the precinct has received 19 new officers. Veronica Castro asked if the committee members or the public had any issues or concerns that they would like addressed at future meetings. Sergio Marte requested statistics on the hate crimes.

Officer Mederos stated there are no hate crimes reported for the year in the precinct as compared to one last year.

Roxanne Delgado stated that on the weekends and holidays the NCOs or community affairs are not present in NYCHA.

The Commanding Officer has changed the tours of the NCOs. They are working night tours and there are less of them available on the weekend. Fireworks have already started in the community and are a huge nuisance. The prevention of fireworks has been given to the sheriff's department. Lastly, the Precinct is in contract with one tow company that is used to remove vehicles that have been abandoned on the street. The tow company has contracts with other precincts. The tow company may be looking to get out of its contract, which would increase the difficulty within the precinct to have vehicles removed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm

Minutes by Veronica Castro; edited and formatted by staff.

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