

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

Chairwoman Wendy Laker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with a roll call of participants which established a quorum.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members present: Wendy Laker; Alvin Williams, Jr.; Charley Richard; Robert Rivard; and Darby Shields. Absent were Richard Lorusso and Brett Emmanuel.

Presenters: Chief Kendrick Allen, 1st District Captain; Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; Sudie Joint, CPA, MCSD accountant; and Korey Lewis, Sr. of Pinnacle Security.

Guests: Ms. Jasmine.

- FINANCIAL REPORT (Due to prior commitments this agenda item was taken out of order)
 - The September 2023 Bank Statement was approved and initialed by all Board members.
 - S. Joint requested Board approval of September monthly bills and payments (\$1,006.73 to Graphix Matter for website and media work; \$19,323.85 to Pinnacle for patrol services for 9/16/23 through 10/7/2023 periods; \$1,440.00 to Adams & Reese for work related to the ballot initiative; \$1,673.64 to Adams and Reese to replace the check from June that had never been cashed; \$770.00 for CPA Lawrence Jacobi; \$1,445.00 to S. Jeanne Ward Zitler for final work on the assessors property data; and EFT of \$74.70 to Verizon. All payments were approved with a motion by W. Laker which was seconded by R. Rivard and approved unanimously.
 - S. Joint presented the Financial Statements. It was again noted that the city has not sent bills since March so there is an unusually large surplus shown in the financial reports. Discussed were the Profit and Loss for January through September 2023 versus same period 2022; Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2023, versus same period 2022; Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual for January through September 2023; and the millage figures 2020 through 2023. The fact that MCSD has not been billed by the city is also reflected in the millage figure for 2023 which continues to be “in dispute” since there is lack of agreement between the city and MCSD regarding this issue.
 - Discussion was held concerning the timing of the proposed budget for 2024 regarding city and state regulations. Line items concerning media and camera issues were also briefly discussed. S. Joint noted that the budget resolution had been prepared, was sent to the city, and receipt was confirmed.

- CRIME REPORTS (Taken out of order due to prior commitments)
 - Captain Allen made comments from NOPD in general and noted that there had been a 30% reduction in violent crime in the city. It was also noted that 61% had been solved in the 1ST District which was encouraging. However, aggravated battery (domestic issues) was the biggest issue at the present time. Car jackings were down and arrests had been made in numerous cases. Some of the more serious crime locations in the mid-city area were also noted as well as the issue of vagrancy. One new area noted was the area around “Wit’s Inn” which had recently changed ownership. There had been several reports of “off road” vehicles blocking the streets, neutral ground, and parking lots in the area.
 - Korey Lewis with Pinnacle Security provided a PowerPoint presentation of monthly activities as well as a summary of patrol reports. He noted that one of their vehicles had been involved in an accident on 10/3/2023 so mileage isn’t well documented since the replacement vehicle did not have similar GPS capabilities. Homeless intervention totaled 90 incidents from 51 citizen

contacts. Pinnacle continues to patrol the entire MCSD but focuses on “hot spots” at critical times.

- Sgt. Russel provided crime reports for each week since the previous meeting along with details of the significant issues. He noted that Ulloa/S. Pierce area along with businesses at the corner of Tulane and S. Carrollton were receiving considerable attention, not only from NOPD but also ATF. The issue of a crime category labelled as “shots fired” was also discussed. It was agreed that while this may not be totally accurate since these could later be labelled as a more serious crime, it was important to have these listed.
- Discussion followed regarding specifics within the reports.

➤ BOARD MINUTES

- W. Laker noted that the “stop payment” on the June check to Adams and Reese should have been included in the “checks paid” portion of the September minutes. W. Laker moved to approve the amended minutes, A. Williams seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

➤ COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Outreach and Visibility. D. Shields and W. Laker attended MCNO as well as several of the “Night Out Against Crime” events. They discussed the ballot initiative at all locations. It was further noted that in the future MCSD play a more active role in the “Night Out Against Crime” events and work more closely with MCNO and Lakeview in undertaking these events.

➤ OLD BUSINESS

- D. Shields commented further on his research into crime cameras and distributed information on the issue. It was decided that he would provide an additional report at the next meeting.
- It was noted that the SDT Company had agreed they would purchase 3 I-Pads that could be used for a 3-month trial on the MC Crime App. If MCSD continues beyond the trial period, the I-Pad costs would be added to the contract price. It was further noted that the Greenway and Porch Pirates be added for reports. W. Laker moved that MCSD accept the revised offer, D. Shields seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

➤ NEW BUSINESS

- Media material and the information contained within them to provide education to residents and businesses of Mid-City concerning the upcoming ballot initiative were discussed. Samples were distributed. A. Williams moved that MCSD approve the brochures as amended from the discussion and R. Rivard seconded the motion. R. Rivard then moved that MCSD be authorized for an expenditure of up to \$4,000 for printing of the media material which was seconded by A. Williams. R. Rivard then moved that MCSD authorize the expenditure of postage to mail to addresses within Mid-City which was seconded by W. Laker. All motions were approved unanimously.
- It was noted that Ethics and Sexual Harassment classes would have to be renewed soon.

➤ W. Laker asked for public input. Ms. Jasmine had comments concerning Pinnacle and what she says is their harassment of her.

➤ At 8:40pm, W. Laker offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by R. Rivard. There was no opposition.

CERTIFICATE As Secretary 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 18th day of October 2023.



Charley Richard, Secretary