

# WM Security and Health Meeting (12.08.20)

Attendance: HELD VIA ZOOM MEETING FOR SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCING

## Names of Attendees

Charlie Clark	Nicole Collinet	Jim Contreras	Jessica Contreras
Brian Davidson	Sean Donelly	Kevin Galati	Micah Graf
Neal Greene	Brooke Gutierrez	Enn Hageman	Cynthia Hauser
Retha Hill	Ty Jernigan	Beth Kohler	Katie McFadzen
Maureen McFadzen	Carly Rebuck	Erich Schwald	Lisa Marie Shaul
Sheryl Shawen	Grace Shivka	Nick Shivka	Lorna Spencer
Aaron Stevens	Kathy Tucker	Elias Villarreal	Rebecca Wagner
David Weaver	Kim Williamson	John Woodland	Nate Worthington

## Introduction

- Welcome to all new attendees
- Introduction to Crime Summit with Officer Aaron Stevens
- Introduction to COVID trauma and mental health with Cynthia Hauser, LMSW

## Speaker: Officer Aaron Stevens, Phoenix Police Department

Officer Stevens provided updates on the overall status of the current crime climate in our neighborhood and surrounding areas, as well as suggestions for how to be proactive and respond accordingly.

COVID has created certain issues in terms of PHX PD staffing (lowered patrol officers). Currently Officer Stevens's team has been demobilized for two weeks.

The "Shop with a COP" event is scheduled for Thursday, December 10. Officer Stevens is coordinating the logistics for this and will be more available immediately following the event.

## Homeless Camps

- Homeless issues are trending upwards
- Large homeless camps are a major problem right now
- PHX PD is working to get one of the largest (at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Indian School) dismantled and the residents the resources they need

### **Burglary and Package Theft**

- There is an uptick in both of these crimes
- 3 recent reports for burglary: tool theft, package theft (9<sup>th</sup> Ave and Mackenzie), and other
- Officer Stevens recommends watching out for neighbors while home; additionally notifying neighbors when we are to be out of town

### **Fireworks vs. Gunshots**

- There has been an increase in both of these in the neighborhood, especially to the South
- With the holidays approaching, we should expect more activity
- Officer Stevens reminds as that anything airborne is illegal and requests residents to NOT attempt to differentiate between the two
- Call the non-emergency POLICE number **602.262.6151** to report such activity; if you don't get through on that line immediately, call **911**; the call can always be de-escalated from there

### **Fire/Internet Outage**

- The recent fire that took down the Internet for Century Link customers was serious and could have been much worse
- PHX PD is reviewing arson description
- Officer Stevens requests any fire be reported to PHX FD **911** immediately

### **Scooters on Canals**

- This is a known issue
- Requires two officers to respond
- Will be more directly addressed when staffing is easier in the coming weeks

### **Vacant Warehouse Parties**

- These are becoming a large issue; typically they are further South
- PHX PD is focused on stopping these as they are magnets for crime and dangerous activity

### **Car Clubs and Noise**

- These are becoming more of an issue and are difficult to control because "enthusiasts" only need to remove a muffler in order to create a lot of sound
- Encanto and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue have unsanctioned events on Wednesday nights; these are loud and problematic
- Currently PHX PD has only one squad for the entire city devoted to this
- PHX PD has one working radar; typically set up at Osborn, between 7<sup>th</sup> Ave and 15<sup>th</sup> Ave

## **Jails**

- Jails are currently at capacity
- Courts are completely shut down/backed up due to COVID
- PHX PD is currently not arresting anyone for a misdemeanor

## **Alleys**

- Blocking alleys can go two ways: on the positive side, they can restrict access, on the negative they can create hideaways and places for camps
- Lights and signage are always helpful
- Cameras are also helpful (when a crime suspect is known)

## **Speeding in Neighborhood**

- Cutting through the neighborhood and speeding is a problem; worst on Mackenzie
- Speed bumps can be helpful, but they must be visible; they also need to address flooding issues
- Discussion (Brian Davidson) involved traffic circle, timed gates, possible 1-way access; these are to be discussed further

## **Speaker: Cynthia Hauser, LMSW**

Cynthia brought her professional experience as an LMSW to our discussion regarding trauma and mental health issues related to COVID and beyond. In addition to her work as a therapist, she spent years working as an emergency dispatcher. This combination offers her a valuable expertise in trauma and the human response. Important topics included the following:

### **Witnessing a Crime**

- Witnessing a crime can be traumatic
- Grief is a part of witnessing a crime; one must react to the adrenaline surge
- The more one knows about trauma, the less likely one is to suffer badly; the concept of “going crazy” is essentially natural

### **COVID and Community**

- COVID is causing an immense amount of isolation, and with isolation comes depression
- ¼ of people have some sort of mental illness, and COVID is increasing isolation and therefore depression
- Currently there is a major strain on mental health professionals
- Humans have an innate need in for connection; this creates a sense of meaning and purpose in one’s life
- As much as we can, we need to stay connected in these unfortunate times
- There are resources out there to help you, and there is no shame in asking for help

**Countless helpful resources can be found on [www.psychologytoday.com/us](http://www.psychologytoday.com/us)**