

SANDTON COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM

Annual General Meeting 2012/13

**Minutes of the CPF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held in the SAPS Boardroom, 2 Summit Road, Morningside
on Wednesday, 26 June 2013 at 18.00hrs.**



Present: As per Attendance Register.

Apologies: Brian Humphreys (Rivonia Gardens)
Marc Corcoran (Woodmead/Khyber Rock)
Jo Gonsalves (Kelvin)
Annette Deppe (Cllr Ward 93)

WELCOME and APOLOGIES:	ACTION
<p>Wendy Robertson opened the meeting and asked for a moment of silence in prayer with special thoughts for our critically ill Former President Nelson Mandela and his family.</p> <p>WR welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance and asked each one to introduce themselves to the house.</p> <p>Apologies were tendered as listed above.</p>	
CONSTITUTION OF THE SANDTON CPF	W. Robertson
<p>Wendy Robertson officially launched the Aligned Constitution of the Sandton CPF which had been previously accepted and implemented by the Sandton CPF EXCO.</p> <p>This Constitution was duly aligned to the CPF Provincial Constitution, which was formally launched in October 2010, and duly Aligned to all 135 Gauteng CPF's in September 2011.</p> <p>Copies were distributed to all present.</p>	
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	W. Robertson
<p>Wendy Robertson presented her report of activities in the Sandton CPF for the year 2012/13.</p> <p>After the report the house was given the opportunity for questions from the floor.</p> <p>Hard-copy of this Report was distributed to all present and electronic copy is attached hereto. The report will be posted on the Sandton CPF website.</p>	
FINANCIAL REPORT	W. Robertson
<p>The Audited Financial Report for the year ending 31 March 2013 was presented.</p> <p>WR explained that as our most recent Treasurer, Gary Parker resigned in November 2012 due to pressure of business, the previous Treasurer, Bill MacFarlane had been asked to summaries the financial situation. WR presented his report.</p> <p>Acceptance of the Financial Report was proposed by Judith Taylor and seconded Peter Berner. Hard-copy was distributed to all present and electronic copy is attached hereto and will be available on the CPF website.</p>	

<p>STATION COMMANDER'S REPORT</p> <p>Brig Alan Billings presented his report.</p> <p>He expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Community Police Forum for their time, effort and support.</p> <p>In addition to the report as presented, Brig. Billings also stated that Sandton SAPS has a staffing level of 96.6% and vehicle strength of 64%.</p> <p>After the report the house was given the opportunity for questions.</p> <p>Peter Berner commented that the Gallo Manor police station had been built by the Community Action Company through donations received from the community and is maintained by the CAC.</p> <p>WR noted that Sandton police station in Summit Road, Morningside is the Head Office for Sandton and serves the Sandton precinct with two other satellite stations, namely Gallo Manor and Buccleuch, both manned by Sandton police and reporting to Sandton H/O. She thanked Peter Berner and the Community Action Company for the continued upkeep of the Gallo Manor satellite station.</p> <p>Shathi Govender (Paulshof) queried how Sandton SAPS was going to address the 64% vehicle shortfall and asked whether the community could not contribute through donations of vehicles.</p> <p>Brig Billings advised that the allocation of motor vehicles was out of the Station's hands and was at the discretion of Province.</p> <p>WR advised that when vehicle donations are made, these are included in the Station fleet figures and consequently deducted from Province allocation, with no additional benefit to the Station. Previously 2 x Chevy Sparks had been donated to Sandton by the CPF, as well as a VW Golf from the Reservists and these vehicles were included within the Station count, with SAPS meeting all maintenance and running costs.</p> <p>It was noted that Government garages can take a long time to repair damages, and that problems were exacerbated by the fact that the vehicles worked on a 24/7 basis. Sandton CPF had attempted to make a positive difference by sponsoring Advanced Driver Training for 20 SAPS officers per year over the past 3 years. WR advised that the vehicle situation was problematic through-out Gauteng in one form or another and that CPF's were interacting with SAPS at every level in this regard.</p> <p>The Station Commander's Report is attached hereto and will be available on the Sandton CPF website.</p>	<p>Brig. A. Billings</p>
<p>GENERAL</p>	
<p>Anthony Modena, Chairman of the CPF Sub-Forum in Sector 2, thanked WR on behalf of the community for her dedication and hard work in the running of the Sandton CPF. Peter Berner, Chairman of CPF Sub-Forum in Sector 5, seconded these comments which were also supported by all CPF management present.</p> <p>Anthony Modena also thanked Brig. Billings and his team for work well done, especially in AM's personal high-jacking situation of the week before. This was unanimously seconded by the entire CPF management structure.</p> <p>Grazyna Auf (Gallo Manor) commented on the fund-raising challenge and queried why only businesses were being targeted. She suggested that perhaps a better way would be for community participation in a "Fun Day" event together with SAPS involvement.</p> <p>WR welcomed this idea and stated that young people were much needed in the CPF with new ideas like these. She asked that LA head up a team to investigate and present such possibilities formally to the CPF.</p> <p>WR further advised that resident associations needed to become key in each contributing a small but regular amount on behalf of the community, to the Community Police Forum. This was currently being done in isolated cases, and in addition previous appeals had gone out to the residents for a R10 per month per household contribution, which if successful would immediately turn the whole situation around.</p> <p>Louise Agar remarked that Sectors have been going since September 2003 so this year would mark 10 years and thought that a celebration would be a good idea. WR suggested that LA put forward a proposal to this end, but commented that although Sector policing was not a new development, the current CPF structure and CPF Sub-Forums within Sectors had been formally instituted and constituted in October 2010.</p>	

<p>WR advised that the Sandton CPF would be “twinning” with the Ennerdale CPF in fighting crime and finding solutions to the benefit of both communities.</p> <p>WR advised that the next Sandton CPF Open meeting would be scheduled for the end of September to coincide with the release of the National Crime Stats so that community participation with Brig.Billings could take place.</p> <p>WR thanked David Jenkins and Sandton Chronicle for their continued and important involvement and support.</p> <p>Sgt, Tenza, on behalf of JMPD thanked Brig. Billings for his good leadership and management which was rewarded by a very well run Station.</p> <p>WR acknowledged JMPD management and officers and thanked them for their support and attendance at CPF meetings. She advised that JMPD are in attendance at every Sandton CPF monthly meeting, the weekly Monday morning security meeting and the monthly Clay Oven informal settlement meeting in Sector One. WR reminded all that as per agreement with the CPF and due to time constraints JMPD could only attend the five Sector Crime Forum meetings by written invitation only.</p> <p>Finally, WR thanked all attendees for their interest and the time taken to attend the meeting.</p>	
CLOSURE	W. Robertson
WR declared the meeting closed at 19:30hrs.	

Minutes accepted with / without revision.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name (Please print): _____



AGM - Sandton Community Police Forum – 2013

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Sandton policing precinct covers an area of 84 square kilometers, stretching from William Nicol in the west to the N2 in the east; Sandton Drive in the south to Leeukop Prison in the north. Sandton precinct is the second largest precinct in Gauteng, and certainly seems to hit the headlines most often due to being situated in the financial heart of South Africa and hosting the predominance of international businesses and prominent persons from all walks of life.

The Sandton precinct is part of the Alexander Cluster, together with the policing precincts of Alexander, Bramley, Midrand and Sandringham.

Crime continues to be well fought and to diminish year-on-year within the Sandton policing precinct, however our challenges still remain, more particularly that of property crimes.

A contributing factor is the apparent reluctance of the community to become involved in community based crime fighting organizations such as the CPF.

Our high walls separate us from our neighbours and the "Big Five" concept is nearly impossible to establish within this precinct. By 'Big Five' we endeavour to have residents know, watch-out for and interact with their neighbours to the right, the left, the back and the front of their properties.

It is also disturbing to know that many of our property crimes take place due to some form of domestic worker involvement, whether through ignorance or predetermination, and that in too many instances open windows and doors serve as the entry point to criminal activity.

Theft out-of motor vehicles remains a problem, and in many instances a contributing factor is the 'jamming device'.

Communication to the community in form of local newspaper articles, issuing of pamphlets, emailing of security hints to schools, shopping centers, etc. as well as community websites and the CPF database seems to have little impact on the general populace regarding personal responsibility and accountability in fighting the scourge of crime.

All five Sectors of the Sandton policing precinct are well serviced by fully operational CPF Sub-Forums, who address the above issues on a continual basis. It is important to note that community interaction formally takes place on a monthly basis at these Sub-Forums and that local issues are addressed at this level. This primary, specialised interaction between the Sector Communities and the Sector Police must take place at this level. It is at this level that community members are voted onto the CPF and where elections take place at the local AGM's.

This 'local policing' aspect truly allows for the needs of specific communities to be aired and addressed.

In certain Sectors, these Sub-Forums have developed Business Forums to address the particular issues regarding businesses in the area, which meetings are normally held during office hours, whereas the CPF Sub-Forum meetings tend to address residential issues and take place outside of office hours. All these meetings are well supported by the relevant Sector Commanders, SAPS Management as well as SAPS members allocated to the relevant Sector Vehicles. Ward Councillors and on invitation JMPD, as well as various other role-players are in attendance at these meetings in order to address the issues that face the communities.

SAPS co-hosts a weekly meeting with the CPF which is attended by security companies, shopping centre management, COJ, JMPD, Gautrain, the Taxi Associations and others, wherein the crime incidents of the previous week are discussed and the community is kept advised via weekly Crime Trends being circulated by the CPF. This is a service to the community that currently is only offered by the Sandton CPF and Sandton SAPS.

On a monthly basis Sandton CPF is represented at the Hotel Forum, working closely and building recognition with these businesses and the specific crimes that beset that industry. This in turn brings us closer to the Tourist Industry and we are beginning to be positively recognized by these bodies. The same approach is taken with other organisations such as JCCI, but much more needs to be done on this front, including creating a rapport with BACSA.

Within the CPF Sector One sub-forum, we have a specific project team working on the issues surrounding the Clay Oven settlement at c/r Witkoppen/Main Streets. This team is chaired by myself and includes Region E representation in Housing, Parks, Environment, Law Enforcement, etc. as well as other stakeholders such as various Churches, St Peters School, surrounding businesses, Gauteng Province, JMPD, Ward 106 Councilor, Douglasdale CPF representation and of course SAPS. Our challenge is to contain this settlement on the Road Reserve until alternative housing can be found.

Green belts and construction sites throughout the Sandton precinct offer ongoing challenges surrounding squatters and vagrants, which challenge we believe is exacerbated by non-compliance of by-laws as well as illegal employment practices. Further social challenges which contribute towards crime are the existence of hawkers and beggars on our streets. We believe that the various authorities must be held to account before these issues become a SAPS problem.

The CPF Sub-Forums are engaging with City Parks in the possible future community maintenance of these areas under certain conditions. Vagrancy is an issue that needs the interaction of JMPD and Region E, City Parks and Home Affairs, and SAPS work together with these Agencies in an effort to contain the problem. It is my opinion that this problem is exacerbated by our 'open border' policy as well as the natural migration from rural areas to city areas that is prominent in all countries.

Our Victim Empowerment Unit is fully operational and we know it to be one of the best in Gauteng. This unit offers Trauma counseling to all contact-crime victims of Sandton on a daily basis and operates a specialized Rape/Sexual Offence Unit as well as a specialized Crime Scene Team who will respond immediately at the crime scene when so requested by the Duty Officer. The VEP unit currently stands at 31 experienced Volunteer counselors who receive training on a monthly basis, and who in addition are split into three 'Core Groups' who also meet once a month for discussions around this particular discipline.

We have not been as successful in launching the Youth Desk within Sandton in spite of our efforts over the past 2 years and our approach to schools has not been as successful as we would have wished, although we have made initial contact with other youth groups, such as Scouts who are most interested in becoming involved. None-the-less, in order to provide a more focused approach in this regard, we have appointed a Church Liaison Officer this past month, who will spearhead our interaction with the various churches within Sandton, and especially target the youth groups within

the churches. Once again Sandton CPF is adopting this new approach which we trust will be successful. The “youth” age group is defined as 18years to 35years and many of this age group in Sandton are busy with university studies or creating their careers and thus we still need to make a break-through. The challenges in this regard differ widely between, for instance, Sandton and our sister station Alexander.

To meet the needs of a growing Chinese population in our area, especially within Rivonia in Sector 4, we have appointed a Chinese Liaison officer to assist with communication surrounding both safety hints as well as social expectations and general interaction between the Chinese population and the police. To this end the Sandton CPF has been interviewed on Chinese Radio and is striving to both welcome as well as guide our growing Chinese population in the ways of our specific world. Again, we take pride in the fact that within the CPF circles, Sandton is spearheading the creation of various Portfolios to meet the specific needs of our community.

Fund-raising is an important project for the Sandton CPF and in spite of commonly held beliefs, the Sandton CPF is constantly striving to gain financial support from the many businesses in the precinct. Much of this funding is channeled to BACSA and the Sandton CID, with minimal support for the local police station. Our funding over the past 4 years has been mainly through an annual golf day but the current financial climate as well as the amount of work this demands has had an extremely negative impact on the future of this fundraiser. We are planning a Gala Extravaganza for 2014 to be held in the Sandton Convention Centre and have appointed Edith Venter to this Project as we have neither the time nor the expertise to do this ourselves.

At the recent formal ‘Station Inspection’ undertaken at Sandton SAPS by SAPS Province, the inspection included the Sandton CPF and it is our understanding from verbal feedback that Province was both pleased and impressed by our operation. We await their formal, written report-back.

The various projects that we are involved in include the following, all based on our goal of ‘introducing best business practices into the Sandton policing precinct’:

- Compilation of a Sandton Database which will include contacts within many categories of business (schools, hotels, garages, shopping centres, hospital and other medical facilities, etc.). This is an ongoing project which will allow SAPS and the CPF to communicate widely and quickly with the community regarding safety warnings, look-outs, etc.
- Provide and maintain Blackberry mobile phones to relevant SAPS personnel - currently standing at 13.
- Provide and maintain 4x laptops, 2x printers, 3x desk-tops as well as internet coverage for 13x@sandtonsaps.co.za addresses; 14x@sandtoncpf.co.za addresses.
- Provide and maintain the www.sandtonsaps.co.za website as well as the www.sandtoncpf.co.za website.
- Organisation of training courses to meet our aim of ‘best business practices’ (EXCEL, WORD, Power-Point).
- Addressing greater vehicle visibility through advanced driver course training and monitoring subsequent accidents and effectiveness of this training.

- Providing Jamming Device Detectors to certain SAPS teams within Sandton – currently 2 have been supplied to the Detective Unit specializing in vehicle crimes, and a further 4 are provided for use by the Sector Vehicles.
- The Clay Oven initiative which includes community outreach program through vegetable gardens.
- Providing funds for a general handyman to work at the Station once per week.
- Providing regular funding on a quarterly basis to address the ‘petty cash’ needs of the Station which would include small R&M equipment, acceptable provisions for visitors, flowers/fruit for hospitalised personnel, etc.
- In addition the CPF provides financial assistance when requested in the case of transport for personnel when attending funerals of Station colleagues.
- We have provided and are involved in the maintenance of a closed CCTV system within certain areas of the Station, which system is to address both safety issues as well as anti-corruption practices.
- Certain other R & M funding is needed on occasion, such as painting of the parking bays within the Station area and repair of the shade-cloth covers over senior management parking areas.
- Sponsoring the TOP COP Awards on a Quarterly and Annual basis to promote and recognize positive crime fighting efforts from the SAPS personnel stationed at Sandton.
- Sponsoring the annual SAPS Staff Children’s Christmas Party to show our appreciation to the families of SAPS personnel.
- Our ‘big project’ at this time is the upgrading of the SAPS Lapa which will allow for better training facilities for SAPS as well meet certain of their social needs. This project calls for an approx. R240,000 spend and is certainly top of our list for sponsorship and financial assistance from the community.

The volunteers who form the Sandton CPF team are all dedicated to ‘making a positive difference’ and are very often over-extended in the duties they perform and consequent responsibilities. Volunteer fatigue is a real issue and we are constantly looking to gain additional volunteers who are able to meet the official requirements demanded by the Community Policing Forum. This is not a job for sissies and we need to reach out to the community to ensure that all Sandtonites take responsibility for their own safety as well as assist us in building bridges between the community and the South African Police Force. We need to join hands to fight crime in our very own area and accomplish the dream of a safe and secure ‘Rainbow Nation’.

In closing, know that Sandton CPF is fully supportive of Sandton SAPS in the fight against both crime and police corruption and in spite of high-profile media exposure of crime in our area, we endeavour to fulfill our role of team-building as well as oversight with regard to Sandton SAPS. We congratulate our Station management for the successes of the past, and look forward with trust and hope into the future.

Wendy M. Vorster-Robertson.
 Chairman: Sandton Community Police Forum.
 Mobile: 083.700.2401
 eMail: chairman@sandtoncpf.co.za
 Web: www.sandtoncpf.co.za

26th June 2013.



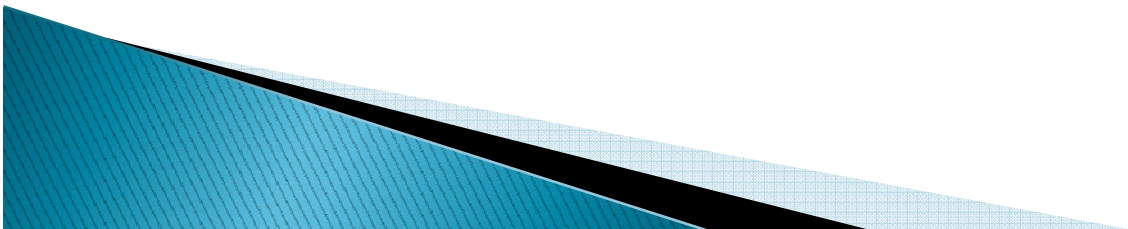
SAPS SANDTON STATION REPORT

PRESENTATION CONDUCTED BY:
STATION COMMANDER : BRIGADIER A.P. BILLINGS



VOTE OF THANKS

- ▶ Community policing is a partnership, to ensure a better and safer community. This is made possible with the interaction from the following role players :
 - Wendy Vorster–Robertson (CPF Chair and Sector 1 Chair)
 - Brian Robertson (CPF Vice Chair and Sector 3 Chair)
 - Anthony Modena (Sector 2 Chair)
 - Judith Taylor (Sector 4 Chair)
 - Peter Berner (Sector 5 Chair)
 - Yogi Govender (CPF Secretary)



JOINT PROJECTS

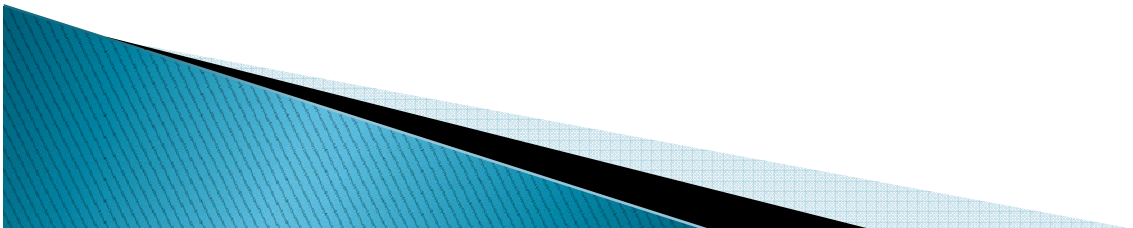
- ▶ Quarterly Top Cop Awards : this helps to promote moral of the station by acknowledging outstanding behaviour/policing.
- ▶ Blackberry Cell phones : communication is key in the battle against crime. And thanks to the CPF important SAPS role players are able to receive crime information in a timely manner
- ▶ Technology : CPF has assisted in providing office equipment as well as e-mail
- ▶ Youth Desk : the youth are our future, and with the CPF's involvement we can be assured of a responsible future
- ▶ Victim Support : the assistance being rendered to our victims by volunteers can never be appreciated enough.

JOINT PROJECTS(continued)

- ▶ Jhb Voluntary Mounted River Rangers : assists with patrols in green belt areas, giving information to SAPS of vagrants etc.
- ▶ Estate Agents Against Crime : runs a Tenant Profile Network (TPN) which checks on prospective tenants, verifying possible history of fraudulent or criminal activity
- ▶ Fund raising : CPF generates funds by means of the Sandton CPF golf day. These funds are used in the battle against crime

STATION PROFILE

- Sandton SAPS is situated in the Northern Suburb. The area is 84km² with an estimated population of ±106 757.
- 286 Functional members – 29 Public Service Act – TOTAL 315
- The policing precinct consist of 5 sectors namely:
 - Sector One : (Sunninghill, Paulshof, Rietfontein, Lonehill, Brecknock, Woodead, Khyber Rock, Gallo Manor)
 - Sector Two : (Petervale, Klevehill Park, Bryanston, Riverclub)
 - Sector Three : (Parkmore, Sandown, Benmore, Duxberry, Morningside Ext 40, Strathavon, Sunset Acres, Moodie Hill, Little Fillan)
 - Sector Four : (Rivonia, Edenburg, Morningside, Morningside Manor)
 - Sector Five : (Buccleuch, Kelvin, Eastgate, Marlboro North, Wendywood, Krammerville, Woodmead Value Mart)
- **TOTAL OF 32 SUBURBS**

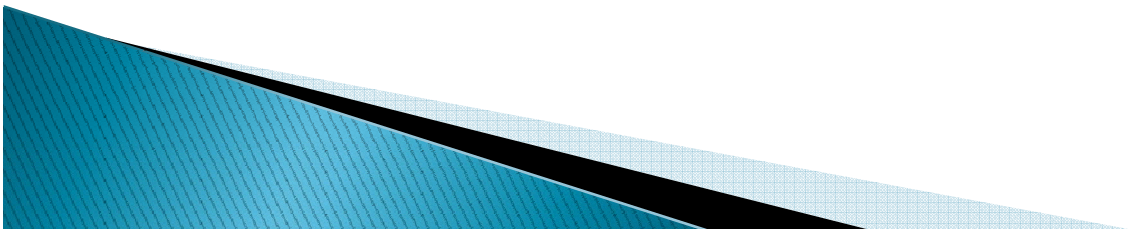


SOCIAL CRIME PREVENTION

- **The following Social Crime Prevention programmes have been conducted, with Government Departments such as Education, Social Development ,Health and Community Safety .**
- Drug raids at High Schools
- Recruitment of Youth Desk members
- Domestic watch project at all sectors
- Crime awareness with regard to jamming device/house breakings etc

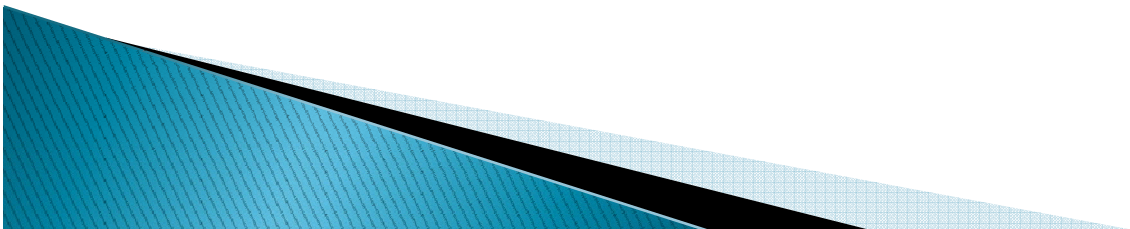
CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED

- A SHORTAGE OF MEMBERS ESPECIALLY SUPPORT SERVICE.
- RECRUITMENT FOR YOUTH DESK
- NO VEHICLE FOR SUMMONS/WARRANTS, SECTOR MANAGERS, FLASH, SOCIAL CRIME PREVENTION AND FRC
- CORRUPTION
- ABSENTEEISM
- DISPOSAL OF DOCKETS
- BALLISTIC REPORT - LONG TURN AROUND TIME



CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED

- THE RECRUITMENT OF SUITABLE INFORMERS IN THE AREAS OUTSIDE STATION AREA
- DETECTION RATE DUE TO CONTACT AND PROPERTY CRIME, SUSPECTS LIVING OUTSIDE STATION AREA



**Problems are not stop signs, they are guidelines”
– Robert Schuller**

**THE END!
THANK YOU!**