

# MANITOWOC CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE

## December 1, 2011 – Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Linda Blahnik, Lynn Scheinoha, Vicki Wetenkamp, Ralph Kramer, Robert Dewane, Don Stefancic, Jay Skinner, Charles Rasmussen, Annie Short, Kelly Becker

**High School Members Present:** Jay Skinner, Cooper Schmidt

**Law Enforcement Members Present:** Sgt. Bruce Jacobs, Melia Prange, SRO Rick Ladwig

**Not Present:** Mary Schilder, Rita Muench, Steve Kleinfeldt, Pamela Campbell, Gloria Wallace, Dick Weber, Chris Able, June Kramer, Wendy Smith, Dalton Hermans

**Members of the public = 3**

1. **Roll Call:** Chairperson Linda Blahnik called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.
2. **Review of CPC Minutes:** The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed and Unanimously approved (m/s – Dewane/Rasmussen)
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Copies of the Treasurer's report for November 2011 were distributed and reviewed. Vicki explained account balances as of this date. Report unanimously approved (m/s – Dewane/Schmidt)
4. **Request for public input:** Three requests for public input. No public input.
5. **TRIAD update:** Sgt. Jacobs reporting: Committee met on the 17<sup>th</sup> with 10 to 12 people in attendance. Discussion centered around sexual offenders releases, and notification of community members. The TRIAD members assist police officers in notifying neighborhood residents of the offenders release and resident addresses. The assistance of Sr. Citizens is beneficial to both the police officers and the residents being notified.
6. **Retail/Financial Crime Prevention Task Force Update:** Sgt. Jacobs reporting: Committee met on this day, with representation from both small and large businesses. Attendance was good with about 15 businesses attending. Discussions involved current bad checks written, and current shoplifting issues. Bruce explained the procedure for those involved in this crime. These individuals are offered an educational class, and a settlement opportunity. Businesses continue to share this information and Bruce feels this has had a significant impact on the # of bad checks written.
7. **High School Member Update:** Cooper reports that a theft occurred at Lincoln during basketball practice. A female student had several items stolen out of her unlocked vehicle. Bruce explained how the cameral system works in the parking lot at Lincoln. Because of the camera rotation, the actual theft was not captured on tape. Jay reports no thefts, no vandalism, and no complaints from neighbors at Lutheran High. Brief discussion about differences in the two campuses, the main difference being that Lutheran High has a closed campus, Lincoln does not. Bruce noted that Lincoln High

has 109 doors, and explained the difficulties in keeping track of all the students that are coming and going in the course of one day.

Points regarding private schools (as opposed to public) are:

- Smaller class sizes
- Attendance taken before and after classes
- school can decide if they will take you or not
- teachers remain in the school for longer periods of time

Points regarding public schools (as opposed to private) are:

- larger class sizes
- are required to take all students
- no where else for problem students to go
- teachers generally leave when classes are finished for the day
- the schools are required to provide education to all students
- greater percentage of problem students

Brief discussion about Mc Kinley School (alternative high school). Bob Dewane explained that the school is not for the worst of the worst, but for those who require an alternate schedule or program.

**8. SRO Update:** Richard Ladwig reporting: Has been busy, with one of the biggest problems at this time being truancy. He indicates that incidents have been increasing with each month of school. Richard shared an incident report with all committee members which listed incidents by the:

- Day of the week
- School
- Type of incident
- Month of the school year
- Number of people involved

He explained his “system” for arresting students, as well as how this can differ depending on the principal at each school. He explained that the SRO is often “caught in the middle” between the schools and department. They have to keep the schools happy, parents happy, and police department happy. Occasionally, Search Warrants are needed to search computers, lockers, etc... Have one canine search this year so far, with nothing found. Brief explanation of the Quick 50 program. Also noted that they do have positive points as a SRO such as presentations, DARE program, trainings, and developing a relationship with the students. Question about the text-tip line – Bruce explained the high cost of this. With continual cuts in budgets, this is not feasible at this time.

**9. Citizen’s Academy Alumni Update:** Sgt. Jacobs & Kelly Becker reporting: The academy continues with plans for the upcoming class that begins in March of 2012. Applications have been released. Refresher course on “Gangs” was well attended, with about 40 people in attendance. Academy alumni marched in Holiday Parade (Thanks, Cooper, for acting as McGruff once again!).

**10. Community Partnership for Children of Manitowoc County/Review of Crime Prevention Youth Discussion:** Annie Short reporting: The group continues to divide resources and increase resources. There is an adolescent group forming. Continues to focus on at risk teenagers – explores the idea of turning the current Rollaire Skate Center building into a teen center.

**11. CPC Activities/Projects/Scams, Picture ID Badges:** Sgt. Jacobs reporting:

- By-laws Sub-committee is waiting for a response from Kathleen McDaniel. Will update after opinion received from Kathleen. This is on hold right now due to the fact that budget cuts may result in Kathleen no longer having this position.
- DARE graduation took place at elementary school with speaker from “Pleez Give The Keys” – Bruce mentioned this continues to be a powerful presentation – website information shared: [pleezgivethekeys.org](http://pleezgivethekeys.org)
- Mock robbery took place at a local pharmacy prior to the store opening in the morning, and employees learned valuable lessons, involving being observant.
- New scams in Manitowoc: 1. E-mail telling you that you have filled your allocated space. 2. Medicaid scam – elderly being called and told to call a number with a code in order to dispense some money. They indicate that they need account information in order to release the money. 3. Call that your credit is “frozen”. You are instructed to call a number to verify your account information in order to unlock your account. Bruce estimates that in Manitowoc alone, over 5,000 E-mail scams come in as well as letters, etc... Shared story of older gentleman who had send over \$30,000 over seas over a three year period of time to a “woman” he had never met face to face. Also mentioned that businesses that send money Western Union are notified to call the police when asked to send large amounts of money by wire, and are getting better about doing this.

**12. Dates To Remember: NEXT MEETING: February 2nd, 2012**

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 8:10 p.m.  
m/s –Dewane/ R Kramer-Schmidt)

Respectfully Submitted

Lynn D. Scheinoha (Secretary)