

**Minutes for March 28, 2017**  
**17th Precinct Community Council Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Matt Roberts, vice president of the community council.

The minutes to the January 2017 meeting were read and approved.

**Canine Unit**

Officer Eddie Ramirez of the NYPD Transit Canine Unit discussed the role of canines in the department. He was accompanied by Zane, the five-year-old German shepherd with whom he has been partnered for the past three years.

The NYPD has four K-9 units—transit, bomb squad, narcotics, and emergency service. The dogs assigned to the Transit Unit serve multiple purposes—primarily, though, they work on explosive detection.

Only about 10 percent of dogs considered are ultimately selected to become canine officers—much depends on whether they have the right temperament for the work—and they are given thorough, extensive, and ongoing training. Untrained, the dogs cost approximately \$5k each. In general, the dogs continue working until they are nine or ten years old; upon retirement, they are often adopted by their handlers.

**Medic Alert**

Elizabeth Bravo Santiago of the Medic Alert Foundation spoke about the emergency response service her organization offers for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia who wander or have a medical emergency, as well as the support the organization provides for the caregivers of these individuals. More information is available at [medicalert.org](http://medicalert.org).

**Residential Burglaries**

DI Papamichael gave a brief report on recent residential burglaries and emphasized the importance of ensuring the downstairs door is always locked in non-doorman apartment buildings. She also recommended that those who live in buildings without cameras request that the building owner install them.

**Traffic**

Captain Chris Zaffiro provided a precinct traffic update and answered numerous community member questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.