

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, 09/10/13, 4:15 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Jeff Campbell, Lucas Yonkman, Ed Johnson, Nora Daniel, Robert Young, Terry Lacey
Not Present: Gene Barner
Dept. Staff Present: Chief Ed Green, Renee Hammer
Citizens Present: Joseph Hawkins

Ed Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. in the Oak Harbor Police Department Training Room.

AGENDA TOPICS

1. **July Minutes:** No discussion. Young moved to approve July minutes. Lucas seconded. July minutes approved as presented.
2. **Pertinent Updates / CAB Questions:**

Chief Green distributed a handout prepared by Officer Yzaguirre illustrating Daniel using graffiti cleaner.

Johnson extended his thanks to Barner for chairing July's meeting (no August meeting due to National Night Out).

CAB Survey: Johnson noted from the July minutes that Barner had requested a discussion CAB Survey deadline/review and asked Chief Green if he wanted to address that at this time. Chief Green stated the consensus was to let the survey ride until September. At that time, the results can be reviewed, see how many responses were received, and what topics need to be addressed. Campbell asked what is done with responses that are non-police related. Chief Green explained those responses are related to potholes, stop signs; things of that nature. He said he emails those concerns to Cathy Rosen with Public Works. Johnson asked if the results would detail the specific issues hit. Chief Green said the program does do that. He stated many of the issues are not CAB but it does give citizens a way to get issues out and know they are heard. Young concurred that though this is not what the CAB trying to accomplish with the survey, wanted to find out what we are doing right, what is wrong, these auxiliary responses are good for the City. Chief Green reported that a lot of the community is telling us they want emphasis on drug and traffic issues. These are areas of concern we were already aware of and it is the same citizens are asking for. Young suggested compiling the data at the end of September and bringing the results to CAB. Then, depending upon the results, CAB could discuss adjusting the survey to target specific concerns. Chief Green suggested once a quarter compiling the results.

Officer Yzaguirre stepped into the meeting asking if CAB meetings were open to the public. Members stated yes. Officer Yzaguirre said a citizen, Mr. Hawkins would be arriving soon.

Johnson asked Chief Green about the other departments responding to citizen complaints. Chief Green stated he is being reassured that department heads are following up; he knows Cathy Rosen has been. Only a couple were for the Fire Department. He reiterated that most of those

issues are for Public Works. Young asked if Mayor Dudley and the City Administrator were aware these issues are coming in as well. Chief Green stated they see it as well as Supervisors and Department Heads. Lacey inquired about how many surveys have been received total. Chief Green estimated a couple hundred. Lacey asked of those received, how many were outside police matters. Chief Green stated ten to twenty are issues outside the police Department. Though Chief Green expected more in different areas, traffic and drug related issues were the majority. He also noted that graffiti was not a big issue.

Graffiti: Chief Green explained that Mr. Hawkins who would be attending soon has filed complaints about graffiti and is concerned nothing is being done. Johnson stated the CAB would address this issue with Mr. Hawkins and let him know they are doing something about it. Daniel announced that they are going out the first of October to do clean up. Johnson asked about areas and Daniel said the whole town. Campbell asked Chief Green about the significance of the handout. Daniel explained the process of using the cleaner and as the handout shows; graffiti on metal came off good. She further explained that the door shown on the handout was wood and it was harder to get off and required scrubbing.

Johnson brought up the ordinance pertaining to bicycle riders on sidewalks; suggested it might be helpful to get CAB involved. He said CAB members could talk to citizens. Chief Green recommended CAB not getting involved at this point. These ordinances have not been touched in a long time and we are getting this all reworked and through the system.

Mr. Joseph Hawkins joined the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Johnson welcomed Hawkins to the CAB meeting and acknowledged his concerns about graffiti. Hawkins explained he had spoken to Community Service Officer Yzaguirre and found out about today's CAB meeting. Hawkins stated he also volunteered to help clean up the graffiti. He explained his concerns and attempts to address this issue including writing letters to the editor of Whidbey News Times. He is concerned about the problem getting out of control if it is not dealt with quickly. He reiterated he wants it to stop, wants it to end, and is willing to help. Johnson introduced Hawkins to Campbell and Daniel who are both involved in the cleanup efforts and suggested he speak with them further. Johnson told Hawkins his interest as a citizen is appreciated. He stated this is definitely a concern of CAB and ways to deal with it. Chief Green mentioned that we have many bicycle officers on at night. They will be caught; hopefully we will be able to catch them. Young mentioned that members need to talk business owners and tell them, when they see tagging, to report it. Chief Green mentioned that Officer Yzaguirre has been distributing brochures to businesses and discussing clean up options.

Chief Green announced that Martha Folsom has retired. Until a replacement is found, Renee Hammer will be the contact. She can be reached at the main phone line. Email: rhammer@oakharbor.org. He also mentioned that the training room will be used more often for various trainings and community service work so members may notice changes in the room.

Chief Green also reported that the new animal holding facility is up and going. He has been working weekends to move the current WAIF facility to the Goldie location. He said the base shelter has to be closed by the end of this month. Chief Green updated that the Element's closure is a done deal. Liquor Control Board and health department involved. Due to fines, criminal issues, and other matters, they will surrender all licenses by October 4. Johnson asked about appeals. Chief Green said they would not appeal. He stated a previous bartender, who has been cited in the past, is trying to reopen the business as the "Infusion Lounge." Johnson asked if ordinance, zoning, or code enforcement could prevent another business at that location.

Chief Green said no but another business will have to go through development services and city council process prior to approval.

3. **National Night Out – Follow-up Discussion:** CAB members reported a very successful and fun event. Surveys were received from people stopping by the booth. Chief Green reported a tremendous amount of feedback, very positive. Many impressed by the fact CAB was there, being seen not only at the booth, but also out talking with people. He stated overall, everyone enjoyed it. This was the first National Night Out he has been involved in and he was quite impressed and had a great time. Chief Green thanked CAB members, all of them, for putting in the time and effort. Campbell commented he was amazed at the number of participants and people attending. Yonkman explained he was out with an illness and disappointed he could not attend.
4. **CAB Survey Discussion:** Continued discussion from beginning of meeting. Johnson asked about a close off date. Chief Green stated the survey process would continue, however, stated that before the October meeting, he will compile the responses and bring it to CAB. Chief Green liked the suggestion of quarterly reports and reevaluating the survey. Young commented on how easy Survey Monkey was to add checkboxes and CAB may want to look at making a change and see what impact that will make.
5. **General Questions:**

Graffiti: Johnson asked Campbell and Daniel how many areas they were looking at for clean up. Daniel stated that Officer Yzaguirre knows the areas. Johnson stated to Chief Green that if CAB was aware of the locations, then they could get the word out. Johnson suggested Officer Yzaguirre make something with her contact number on it so they can distribute it to business and citizens.

Johnson asked if there were any concerns or questions member wanted to address. Young brought up the Neighborhood Watch program. Mentioned that Officer Yzaguirre was talking about the program at National Night Out and getting more people interested in participating. Young asked about where the police department stands on getting officers into business. Young explained that business owners want to know the officers who patrol their area and they want the officer to know them; relationship building. Chief Green agreed and said this is changing; that this is the way we are going to be working. Johnson spoke not only a neighborhood watch program but also a business watch program. He suggested organizing business areas such as the Safeway strip mall and Whidbey Coffee/Whidbey Jewelry area. Chief Green said they have considered this; is similar to the Downtown Merchants Association. He pointed out they meet regularly and share information such as someone passing bad checks. Chief Green stated he would like to see something similar citywide and that the Oak Harbor Chamber would need to be involved since that is their focus.

Johnson thanked everybody that attended the meeting and for their participation.

Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lacey seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m. on September 10, 2013.

The next CAB meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10/08/13 at 4:15 p.m. in the OHPD Training Room.

Prepared by R. Hammer