

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, 7/10/12, 4:15 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Lauren Nelson, Cathy Niiro, Bonnie LaForest, Jo Balda, Gene Barner, Barbara Buchanan  
Not Present: Dave Thomason, Beth Connor  
Dept. Staff Present: Lt. John Dyer, Martha Folsom

The meeting was called to order by Gene Barner at 4:15 p.m. in the Police Department Conference Room.

**AGENDA TOPICS**

1. **May Minutes:** No discussion. LaForest moved to approve the May minutes, Niiro seconded. Unanimous approval. The May minutes were approved as presented.
2. **Pertinent Updates:** Lt. Dyer advised that, as a result of an idea generated at the last CAB meeting, a public forum was held on child sexual predators. It was co-sponsored by the Island County Sheriff's Office and the Oak Harbor Youth Commission. He felt it was well received. Things went smoothly over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Lt. Dyer mentioned the use and value of the Unified Command Center again (as mentioned in the May meeting). He advised that the County DEM (Dept. of Emergency Management) has purchased a trailer to use as a Mobile Command Center, and will also be paying to equip the trailer. It will be available for use by all agencies. LaForest asked if we (all agencies) were on the same radio frequency, and Lt. Dyer said no, but when reps from all agencies are in the Mobile Command Center we then have direct communications with all agencies' personnel.

Lt. Dyer advised that we hired a new Lateral (experienced) Corrections Officer in early June. Carlos Espiritu came from Snohomish County Jail, and lives here locally, and we think he is going to work out very well. Lt. Dyer advised that we just selected Officer Carter as the new "ProAct" Officer. In the past, we've utilized a Cover Officer position, who worked 4-10's Wednesday through Saturday, during the busy, night hours. This position basically just served to supplement the Patrol Division. Now, we are moving toward this ProAct position, who will address issues proactively. He may work with the detectives on surveillance, on special projects, at the Element, Speed or DUI Emphasis patrols, etc. Lt. Dyer reported that the HSR0 position has worked out well, that Officer Dickinson is supplementing the Patrol Division during the summer, and will head back up to the High School in the Fall. Regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Lt. Dyer reported that we did get a lot of fireworks complaints, but not a significant amount lower or higher than other years. Very often, there is no illegal activity/fireworks involved, but it is frustrating to citizens. We try to deal with it at the least level of enforcement that we can.

Balda asked about hearing a lot of sirens recently, and wondering what has been going on. Lt. Dyer said that he had been out of town for the last few days, and did not know. Folsom advised CAB that the PD is now putting up Daily Calls for Service at their website, and information can be obtained there. She will send out a link to CAB members. In response to a question from Buchanan about a shared radio channel, discussion returned to the Mobile Command Center concept. Lt. Dyer said that there are issues between UHF/VHF radios. In the patrol vehicles, we have more ability to communicate with other agencies, but not on the portable radios. He talked about some of the issues that came out of the "911 Commission", one of which was coming up with NIMS (National Incident Management System) training, wherein all agencies in the Nation who receive any federal grant monies have to be NIMS-complaint. This is training has a very formal framework, where every agency would use the same terminology, same operating principles in a major event. One of the other issues from the 911 Commission was communications and that still needs to be dealt with.

Barner asked how one would recognize the new MCC trailer, and Lt. Dyer said it has not been painted/lettered yet, (it is white), but it is about 10 X 24', and looks like a horse trailer without windows. It is towed by a Fire truck, and has it's own generator. He also talked about the joint Fire-Police Department crime scene investigation trailer, which has all the equipment in it needed at a scene.

3. **National Night Out Sign-up**: A sign-up sheet for National Night out was passed around. LaForest said that, every year CAB members get the materials to pass out, and they go out into the crowd and approach people. She feels that this hasn't been successful and wondered if the format could be changed and perhaps they could stay at the PD booth. Folsom said that there are no "rules" and that the original intent was just to let the public/community members know that the CAB exists and it's function. CAB members will, or can, stay at the PD booth during NNO. Barner asked for a copy of the NNO flyer to hand out in his office, and Folsom will email it to him.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

1. **Police Chief Position**: Niiro asked about the status of the Police Chief position, and Lt. Dyer said he did not know where they were in the process.
2. **HSRO**: Barner asked HS student member Nelson what the "climate" had been at the school since the HRSO got there, and if she had gotten any feel, or feedback, positive or negative. Nelson said that she is only at school part-time, as she goes to college also, but that she hasn't really heard any talk about the HRSO.
3. **Large Scale Exercise**: LaForest asked about an "operation" that was done at the DSHS office a couple years ago – a hostage situation scenario - and if we are still doing those. Lt. Dyer said that we have had two Large Scale Operations in the past, and the purpose was to set up a unified command and have these simulated exercises. One was a shooting scenario at the High School and the other was a car bomb scenario, followed by a hostage situation at DSHS. These exercises involved hundreds of people and many agencies, and taught us some important lessons. They are very expensive to put on, however. He feels we will do another Large Scale Exercise, but it may be a while. Lt. Dyer is very optimistic about the new County DEM director, who is very proactive and wants to do more exercises.
4. **Element**: Balda asked if there were still troubles at the Element, and Lt. Dyer said there are continuing issues and we are still trying to work through them, and get voluntary compliance from the Element. When we don't get compliance, we have to take enforcement action. The residents at the condos across the street are impacted by the noise. The Element was recently cited for violations of conditions of their Nightclub License, and received two separate \$500 fines. Lt. Dyer said that part of the problem is a zoning issue, that the area is zoned mixed – commercial and residential. He said that, back when the condos were built, it was zoned commercial only, but the builder of the condos asked for a variance, and it was changed to commercial/residential.
5. **Visitor in Attendance**: Lauren Nelson introduced Jenny, a foreign exchange student from China who is staying with her family for three weeks.

Adjourn: Balda motioned to adjourn; Buchanan seconded.  
The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m. on 7/10/12.

The next CAB meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9/11/2012 in the OHPD Conference Room.  
Prepared by M. Folsom