

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 14TH, 2015 AT 4:15 P.M.**

Board Members Present:

Ed Johnson, Gene Barner, Nora Daniel, Chase Powell, Sydney Prevost, & Lucas Yonkman

Board Members Not Present:

Jeff Campbell

Department Staff Present:

Chief Ed Green, Meg Massey & Officer Ron Esparza

Others in Attendance:

Two community members attended.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Johnson at 4:15 p.m. in the Police Department Training Room.

AGENDA TOPICS

MEET AN OFFICER:

➤ **Officer Ron Esparza:**

The committee met with Officer Ron Esparza.

MAY 2015 MINUTES:

Ms. Massey distributed the minutes from the June 9th meeting.

Mr. Yonkman moved to approve the June minutes as presented, Ms. Daniel seconded. The June minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE UPDATES :

Chair Johnson stated that committee member Terry Lacey has resigned stating personal issues and not having enough time to devote to Committee responsibilities.

Chair Johnson also stated that he has accepted an application from local business owner Bob Olson of Whidbey Wild Bird, and has passed it on the Mayor's office for consideration and appointment.

Mr. Olson would be an asset to the Committee.

PERSONNEL UPDATES :

➤ **Officer Vacancies**

The conditional offers of employment we extended were accepted and both candidates successfully completed the pre-employment testing. Officer Keith Kretchman, the lateral entry officer from Georgia with three years of experience will start on July 31st and Michael Brown, the entry level officer from Seattle with ten years experience as an army ranger will start on August 3rd.

Chair Johnson asked if we had any other patrol vacancies. Chief Green stated we did not have any paid vacancies, but Officer Slowik is still on mandatory military leave into next year and we cannot fill that spot. Also Officer Yzaguirre is on light duty until she takes maternity leave.

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Additionally it will be a few months before Officer Kretchman completes both his lateral training at the academy and his FTO training, and Mr. Brown will not graduate from the academy until January 2016 (if he is accepted into the class we applied for based on class size) and will then go through the FTO process. So we are actually down four patrol positions currently. There was additional discussion concerning Officer Slowik's extended leave and the training he will need to complete when he returns and that his seniority time is suspended while he is away.

➤ **Records & Evidence Supervisor**

We will be working with the Human Resources department to start the process to fill the vacant Records & Evidence Supervisor position in the next couple of weeks. Now that we have filled the patrol vacancies, we need to fill this position as soon as possible. The Captain is supervising nine people in addition to all other duties, by filling this position we reduce that number to five.

➤ **Challenge Coins**

Chief Green presented each Committee Member with an OHPD Centennial Challenge Coin. He explained that as part of the City's Centennial Celebration each department was responsible for doing something to commemorate this milestone and this is what our department chose to do. These coins will not be produced again after December 31st and we only purchased 300.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:

Chair Johnson reminded the Committee that National Night Out is on Tuesday August 4th, and this year it will be located at Fort Nugent Park. The Committee and guests then reviewed the survey card handed out at last year's event and discussed what questions / issues they would like to see addressed this year. Topics discussed included:

- Traffic: neighborhoods and school districts
- Less questions the better, seven at most, five is best
- Utilize QR codes, link to on-line survey
- Providing adequate space for remarks / other category / comments regarding city, community, etc.
- Short surveys via email
- 2014 Questions regarding interest in being a part of a neighborhood watch group, a citizen volunteer or a member of the CAB not appropriate. Better to phrase it as: would you like to find out more about...
- Need a reward / hook – participants over a thousand, residents more than visitors (need to check with the legal department)
- Panhandlers, less of a concern, curtailed since last year and the new ordinance passed
- Drug activity
- What would you like to see that is important to you?
- Where do you want us to patrol?
- Where is police presence lacking?
- What do you want to see the department doing?
- Open ended questions: leave space, check boxes do not give an opportunity for reason: we are doing poorly is checked, not able to tell us why or elaborate
- Need smaller clipboards
- Leading question – start a conversation

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After much discussion it was decided to draft a survey card and send to Committee for approval. Based on the discussion it would have open ended questions to help us determine what areas to focus on when we create our next detailed questionnaire.

CANCEL AUGUST MEETING:

Chair Johnson suggested the Committee cancel the upcoming August meeting as they will all be attending / helping with National Night Out. Mr. Barner made a motion that the regularly scheduled August meeting be canceled, Mr. Yonkman seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Mr. Yonkman stated that starting in September he will be away for business and may miss the September and October meetings, and he wanted the Committee to be aware. He will make every effort to attend, but it may not be possible. Chair Johnson suggested the Committee excuse Mr. Yonkman from those meetings. Mr. Barner made a motion that the Committee excuse Mr. Yonkman from the meetings he will be unable to attend due to business travel, Ms. Prevost seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

Dr. Marshall Goldberg was in attendance and addressed the Committee about an upcoming event at the Sno-Isle Library in Oak Harbor on July 30th at 7:00 p.m. entitled "Policing in the 21st Century". Dr. Goldberg is the moderator and the panelists are: Greg Banks, Island County prosecutor; Mark Brown, Island County sheriff; Ray Heltsley, law enforcement instructor at Skagit Valley College and retired police officer; and Chris Carney, attorney representing the American Civil Liberties Union. Dr. Goldberg encouraged all Committee members to attend. Chief Green stated he was originally scheduled to be one of the panelists but had to rescind the offer because of a scheduling conflict. Mr. Barner asked if it would be possible to mention the CAB Committee at the forum? Dr. Goldberg said he would be happy to. Dr. Goldberg stated the forum would be videotaped and posted on the Sno-Isle web site.

Mr. Barner asked if there had been any issues as a result of the recent gun show in town. Chief stated the only issue was an increase in filing of paperwork for the purchases.

Chief stated the City is looking at adding a section to the special event permits concerning flying drones over the City.

Chief Green stated that the Fire Department has received permission to do a controlled burn at National Night Out, this will replace the distracted driver crash scene they have done in the past.

Mr. Barner asked if fires had been an issue over the July 4th holiday. Chief stated fortunately not, only two very small (table size) fires were reported and quickly extinguished.

Ms. Massey stated that Ms. Prevost and Mr. Powell have both completed the Open Public Meeting training on July 2nd.

Ms. Massey stated all of the voice mail issues for the CAB phone line are once again resolved.

Reminder: OHPD Open House is Thursday September 17th from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Barner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Yonkman seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

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NEXT MEETING:

The next CAB meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8th at 4:15 p.m. in the OHPD Training Room.

Prepared by Meg Massey