

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 13TH, 2015 AT 4:15 P.M.**

Board Members Present:

Gene Barner, Jeff Campbell, Nora Daniel, Bob Olson, Chase Powell & Sydney Prevost

Board Members Not Present:

Ed Johnson & Lucas Yonkman

Department Staff Present:

Chief Ed Green, Meg Massey & Officer Matthew Krysinski

Others in Attendance:

One community member

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Barner at 4:18 p.m. in the Police Department Training Room.

AGENDA TOPICS

MEET AN OFFICER:

➤ **Officer Matthew Krysinski:**

The committee met with Officer Matthew Krysinski.

JULY 2015 MINUTES:

Ms. Massey distributed the minutes from the July 14th meeting.

Ms. Massey noted one correction to be made, Mr. Campbell was not in attendance at the meeting. Ms. Daniel moved to approve the July minutes as presented with the one correction, Mr. Powell seconded. The July minutes were unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE UPDATES :

Acting Chair Barner welcomed Bob Olson to the Committee as our newest member.

Chief Green stated Marty Malloy applied to the CAB Committee and the Mayor has approved the appointment. His appointment is on the agenda for the 10-20-15 Council Meeting for final approval by the City Council. Marty has been a long time Citizen Volunteer with the Police Department and has decided to resign from that position to become a member of this Committee. Marty fills the Non-Resident vacancy on the Committee.

Chief Green stated an application from Susan Gerard has been forwarded to the Mayor's office for the Resident vacancy. Susan has ties to an employee in the Police Department and has recently relocated to Oak Harbor from Kitsap County.

Chief stated both applicants would be a great asset to the Committee, and it would be the first time since he was hired that the Committee was without a vacancy.

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PERSONNEL / DEPARTMENT UPDATES :

➤ **Officer Vacancies**

Chief Green gave the following report:

Officer Michael Brown is at the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) and has been voted class President by his peers. He is doing well and is currently ranked in the top 20% of his class. The class graduates mid-January.

Officer Keith Kretchman will be attending the Equivalency Academy from 10-19-15 to 10-30-15. It is a tough curriculum and quite stressful, as you are tested daily, and if you fail any test you fail out of the Equivalency Academy and then need to attend the full BLEA. Once Officer Kretchman has completed the Equivalency Academy, he will complete his Field Training and be assigned to a patrol squad.

A patrol Officer will be out on maternity leave any day now, and will not return until next year.

A corrections Officer is on light duty, prior to going on maternity leave, and is assisting with the Records department until that time.

Officer Dennis Dickinson, our School Resource Officer, has retired effective 08-31-15. The position was posted immediately, as the school year was just about to start. Two candidates applied, and met with both the department and the school district before a selection was made. We were fortunate to have two excellent candidates and it was a difficult selection, but Officer Nathan Padrta was selected (he attended the June CAB meeting). Officer Padrta will be at the schools as much as possible, but he can't be posted there full time until Officer Kretchman has completed his training and is assigned to a squad. This leaves the department with another patrol squad vacancy to fill. We will look to find a lateral candidate first, in hopes to fill the position quickly.

➤ **Records & Evidence Supervisor**

A conditional offer of employment has been made. We have a tentative start date of 10-29-15.

➤ **Assistant Firearms Instructor Position**

On September 4th we announced the open position for an Assistant Firearms Instructor. Three very qualified individuals applied. After interviewing all of the candidates, it was determined that all three would become part of a cadre under the direct supervision of Sergeant Carter, the current range instructor. The Officers selected are: Officer Steve Nordstrand, Officer Jon Valenzuela and Officer Matthew Krysinski. This will benefit the department allowing for more flexibility in scheduling necessary training at the range and reduce our overtime costs.

➤ **LiveScan System**

The department purchased a new LiveScan system at the cost of approximately \$15,000. This is our digital fingerprint machine which transmits immediately to local, state, federal and international jurisdictions. Our machine was failing and had no service / support agreements in place, which were included in the purchase of the new system.

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NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO):

Acting Chair Barner led a discussion National Night. Topics discussed included:

- Location, feedback very positive with few exceptions
 - Parking
 - Relocate tents / booths from parking lot to ball fields to utilize on site parking
 - Parking on Ft. Nugent was hazardous
 - Traffic Control
 - Crosswalks Hazardous
 - No Officers assisting
 - Reach out to the ROTC program at the High School for assistance next year
- Lions Club and the Parks Department are already addressing some of these issues
- Ft. Nugent will be the location for NNO for one if not two more years
- Attendance was estimated at 5K – 6K
- Booths present a good advertising opportunity for businesses and others
- Still many people unaware of the event, but are impressed once they attend
- Surveys: 19 completed, results were distributed

OPEN HOUSE:

Chief Green stated the Open House on September 17th was very successful. It was very well attended by the public, staff and City Council. City Administration would like to see it become an annual event. It focused on kids and was set up as a mini academy, complete with donuts. They were greeted by the Chief, took an oath, were presented with a vest and had to participate in a number of stations to earn their badge which was given to them by the Captain. It was worth the expense of the overtime to have the entire staff present to interact as a group and with the public.

FREUND MARSH:

Mr. Campbell discussed the condition of the Freund Marsh. He had placed a call to ICOM dispatch on 09-15-15 to report a tent in the woods behind Heritage Bank NW (formerly Whidbey Island Bank) as well as a large amount of clothing / trash. An Officer arrived 40 minutes later, stated the tent looked vacant but would have patrol return in the evening to check. The Officer followed up with Mr. Campbell on 09-17-15 and stated it didn't appear to be a safety issue, therefore it was not a priority. On 09-21-15 the tent was gone, but the trash was still there. Mr. Campbell then contacted the PD through the web site. One week later all of the trash remained and Mr. Campbell cleaned it up himself.

Chief stated he had forwarded the email to the parks department and was disappointed to hear they had not responded and thanked Mr. Campbell for taking it upon himself to clean it up.

Mr. Campbell has spoken with Mr. Freund who stated he had donated the property to the City. Mr. Freund was responsible for maintaining it for ten years, and then it was the City's responsibility, which it now is. This happens every year and is a public safety concern as there is a public trail that runs along this property.

Merrilee Wong was present and stated she belongs to a Neighborhood Watch in that area. She walks the trail and can hear coughing and drunken sounds on a regular basis. She stated there used to be bike patrols in that area and asked if that could happen again? Chief Green stated not

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currently with the staffing issues we have, but it is something the department wants to maintain moving forward.

Mr. Campbell states the problem is compounded by the native plant life as it provides good cover. Additionally the marsh is very dry and he found the remains of used candles in the reeds which creates an extreme fire hazard given the current conditions. Chief Green stated he would ask the parks department about trimming the growth on a regular basis.

Discussion continued concerning transients and panhandlers. Mr. Campbell stated he viewed a panhandler walk past, looking intently to see what the police were looking at / doing at that location. Ms. Prevost stated she works at Safeway, and they have ongoing problems with the homeless hanging out in the front of the store under the covered section to keep out of inclement weather, and continually sees panhandlers at the entrance to Walmart.

Acting Chair Barner reminded the Committee that the Officers we have met with have almost all stated, that they wish the public would call sooner / more often, it's not a nuisance.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL:

Chief Green reminded the Committee, that by ordinance the CAB is required to give a presentation to the City Council once a year, and we are tentatively scheduled for the November 17th meeting. The committee reviewed last year's PowerPoint presentation. It was decided the Chief would put together a draft presentation which would be sent to the Committee for review. Each member could then individually respond to he or Ms. Massey with their recommendation(s). Then at our next meeting we would review the edits and finalize the presentation. If the presentation date holds, that would be the only agenda item, as the Committee would also need to attend the Council meeting the following week.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Mr. Campbell asked about the situation the Island County Jail is facing as a result of the death of an inmate from dehydration and are we reviewing our policies? Chief Green stated our policies are continually reviewed, but the likelihood of a similar occurrence at our location is unlikely. Our corrections officers are required to check on the inmates every 15 minutes and are also required to check in with ICOM every 30 minutes. All cells are monitored with cameras 24/7. Our staff is trained to err on the side of caution when assessing any inmates wellbeing. Ms. Massey stated just recently we spent approximately \$5,000 on medical care for a single inmate.

Mr. Olson asked if the foot patrols on Pioneer Way will be resumed at some point? He stated it was nice to see the Officers, and they would stop in the businesses once or twice a month to chat with the employees and customers. Chief Green stated he is working towards reinstating that as well as the bike patrols as soon as staffing allows it. We have been able to use some grant money this year to patrol the waterfront area which has been helpful.

Mr. Olson stated the other concern on Pioneer Way is the skateboarders. It is very hazardous when they are skateboarding on the sidewalk. Chief Green stated the skateboard ordinance went to Council and it did not pass (01-06-15), as they could not come to a consensus and want to find a more common ground concerning the restrictions and locations. Any input from the public would very beneficial to resubmitting a revised ordinance for consideration.

Ms. Massey stated that Mr. Olson completed the Open Public Meeting training on October 6th.

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Acting Chair Barner thanked Ms. Wong for attending as these meetings are open to the public and we encourage participation.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Olson seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

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

Prepared by Meg Massey