

Meeting Summary

West Linn Public Safety Advisory Board

January 28, 2019

Call to Order & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairman, Tom Freedland. Board members attending were Kris Duncan, Judy Wiechmann, Michael Megrath, and Mark Gabriel. Staff attending were Stefan Myers (TVFR), Richard Sakelik (City Council), and Capt. Peter Mahuna (WLPD). Guests attending were OSU nursing students, Alison Woods and Jenna Wortheim. A quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda: The Board approved the agenda as submitted.

Approval of Minutes: The written summary for the 11/26/18 PSAB meeting was approved by unanimous consent.

2019 PSAB Officer Elections: Elections were postponed until the February meeting to allow time for all the Board and Commission appointments to be completed by the City Council.

STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

Disaster Preparedness: For the benefit of the attending guests, Judy W. briefly explained the Map Your Neighborhood program. Based on expressed interest, there is the potential for adding approximately 100 homes to the map of those who have participated in MYN meetings. Once those prospective hosts have finalized dates and logistics, those meetings will proceed. Judy also noted she is monitoring Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training programs in the surrounding area.

The emergency command position in West Linn remains vacant and it remains uncertain whether that position will stay at the Police Department or move to Public Works. Capt. Mahuna reported he is working on updating the department's written protocols and is identifying equipment that is in need of updating. Among those needs is a generator that can power the entire Police building for an extended period of time. Council member Sakelik noted that Emergency Preparedness was at the top of the list of priority items for the Council to address in 2019.

Teen Driver Safety: Tom F. reported that the on-line application to participate in the semi-annual Street Survival class has now been posted on the City's website. Although it only "went live" about a week ago, two applications have already been received.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Focus/Topics: In addition to PSAB's ongoing projects, the Chair asked for other ideas. Michael M. said he would like to continue to receive updates on mental health crisis calls.

Kris D. said she would like to see PSAB used as a forum for discussing issues as they may arise in social media. In other words, monitor “the buzz” and try to sort out perception versus reality. Judy W. expressed concern about the anger she has witnessed within neighborhoods when street safety appears compromised after a new housing development is completed and fully occupied. There are many moving parts to the permit process, including Fire Marshall approval, Traffic Safety review and Planning/Building Department approval. The frustration arises when no one is held accountable for the collateral damage that may occur from faulty design or contractor shortcuts. Council member Sakelik noted that addressing these problems is also identified in the Council’s 2019 goals.

STAFF UPDATES

WLPD Update: Capt. Mahuna reported the Department interviewed 36 candidates to fill 3 vacant positions. No hiring can occur until seats at the training academy are confirmed. WLPD is also working cooperatively with Clackamas County to share detective and evidence management services when major crimes occur. The single code enforcement officer has been out on leave, but is expected to return soon to train her replacement. Mark G asked if there is any new information on how marijuana screening is conducted during traffic stops. Capt. Mahuna said he would see if he could get someone within the department to come and answer questions on drug screening at the next meeting.

TVFR Update: Stefan Myers announced that the Board has selected Deric Weiss to take over as Fire Chief when the current Chief retires in June. The Board is also searching for a new Chief Financial Officer to fill another pending retirement. He noted that a local option levy will be up for renewal on the next ballot. There will be multiple activities in recognition of Heart Month in February. TVF&R has a grant program to try to get more automatic external defibrillators (AED’s) in public places. Mark G. noted that after the major recall in March, Phillips is no longer supporting certain AED’s. He said his workplace is replacing them with ZOLL products. Stefan also reminded members of the Pulse Point app which helps to locate the nearest AED in the event of emergency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kris D announced that another organization she belongs to will present the documentary film, Celling Your Soul at the Lake Theatre on Sunday, February 10 at noon. The film features new research on the effects of “screen addiction” among people young and old. There is no admission fee, but donations are gratefully accepted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Duncan (PSAB member)