

Meeting Summary

West Linn Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB)

July 22, 2019

Call to Order & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm by Chairman, Tom Freedland. Members attending were Kris Duncan and Judy Wiechmann. Also attending were Stefan Myers (TVFR), Capt. Peter Mahuna (WLPD), and Lance Calvert (West Linn Public Works Director/City Engineer).

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the written summary for the 6/24/19 PSAB meeting was deferred to the August meeting due to lack of a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS/STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

Disaster Preparedness: Judy W. reported in the wake of the recent earthquakes she contacted some of her counterparts in southern California to learn how they have been preparing the public. They told her it was easier for them to get people interested due to more frequent events such as wildfires and earthquakes. She also learned that throughout Orange County, the disaster preparedness position is assigned to the police.

Judy is continuing her work on visual displays to take to neighborhood meetings depicting earthquake hazard areas throughout West Linn and the 498 homes where MYN training has happened. Concerns remain regarding posting the latter information online. Megan Fursdon, GIS Coordinator, is willing to enter updates and maintain the MYN coverage map, but recommends restricting access to protect privacy. Tom F. suggested an alternate neighborhood association map or chart showing the MYN coverage in percentages. The hope would be to stimulate some friendly competition. Another suggestion for outreach was to contact the Girl Scouts and ask to promote earthquake preparedness when they set up outside of retail outlets to sell cookies.

Teen Driver Safety: Tom F. announced the next Street Survival session is scheduled in October, which allows a little more time to recruit participants. He repeated he was able to confirm that all of the PSAB selectees did participate in the spring training. The intent is to post the application online, as was done in the spring.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion with Lance Calvert, Public Works Director/City Engineer: Mr. Calvert opened his remarks by sharing an overview of city advisory boards. He stated the intent is to serve as a “sounding board” for the public and to liaison with City Council. He noted there are currently more city advisory groups than there are city staff. Hence, Mr. Calvert is assigned to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), the Utility Advisory Board (UAB), and the broader, more interdisciplinary Traffic Safety Committee. He noted that the mission statements of both TAB

and UAB very clearly state their roles and responsibilities. PSAB members said the challenge comes when a citizen brings forward a complaint that is “multi-layered.” The most common are traffic safety, which involve enforcement (Public Safety), infrastructure (Public Works/TAB), and development (Planning/Code Enforcement). Mr. Calvert agreed that lots of educating happens when a situation like that arises. Kris D. said her main concern is that citizens get help connecting to the appropriate source for problem solving without feeling like they’ve been “ping ponged” back and forth between departments/boards. Mr. Calvert agreed that having representatives from different departments in one room as happens with the Traffic Safety Committee is a more efficient use of everyone’s time. He said they tend to meet every other month or more often depending on community comments received and other active issues.

TVFR Update: Stefan Myers reported that the quick response to the brush fire along I-205 successfully averted a serious incident. The fire started when a wheel came off a trailer and sparked. TVFR has responded to lots of crashes since his last PSAB report. TVFR was pleased to receive a plaque from the Kiwanis at the West Linn Olde Time Faire. In one of his first acts upon taking office, the new Fire Chief added the words, “inclusion” to TVFR’s preamble.

WLDP Update: The new sergeant recruited from Oregon City is now on board. The new recruits currently at the training academy will graduate August 9. There were no major incidents this year at the Olde Time Faire. Kris D. asked Capt. Mahuna to briefly explain the psych evaluation stage of the hiring process. The psych evaluation takes place after the background check. West Linn uses Dr. David Corey to perform those services. Dr. Corey, a nationally recognized psychologist in this field, applies a battery of tests to assess fitness for duty. Any time a problem has arisen, Dr. Corey has carefully re-examined his tests to determine whether a particular issue was given sufficient weight.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Duncan (PSAB member)