



CITY OF
West Linn
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, November 26, 2018
6:00 PM – West Linn Police Department – Community Room
1800 8th Ave, West Linn, OR 97068

1. Call to Order and Introductions

2. Review/approval of Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes

- Monday, October 22, 2018, audio recording & written draft

4. Old Business

- Letter to City Council on curb cuts
- Disaster Preparedness
 - Map Your Neighborhood
 - 2019 Preparedness Fair?
- Teen Driving Safety
 - Scholarship selection Spring 2019; draft application form

5. New Business

- End of Year Report
- 2019 Board Officers
- Presentation – WLPD Mental Health Resources/Response – Officer John Huntsman

6. Staff Updates (time permitting)

- WLPD
- TVF&R

7. Community Comments (5 minutes)

8. Announcement of Next Meeting

- Next regular meeting Monday, January 28, 2019, at 6:00 PM

9. Adjourn

Meeting Summary

West Linn Public Safety Advisory Board

November 26, 2018

Call to Order & Introductions: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman, Tom Freedland. Board members attending were Kris Duncan, Judy Wiechmann, Michael McGrath, Mark Gabriel and Mike Schofield. Also attending were Robin Peters (TVFR), Richard Sakelik (City Council), Chief Terry Kruger and Officer John Huntsman (WLPD). A quorum was established.

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

Approval of Minutes: The audio recording and written summary for the 10/22/18 PSAB meeting was approved by unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS

Curb Cut Resolution: The Chair announced he has forward PSAB Resolution #18-1 regarding ADA compliant curb cuts to Toni Tracy for appropriate formatting prior to submittal to City Council.

Disaster Preparedness: Judy W. reported that a Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) meeting was conducted with the Hidden Springs Homeowner's Association on November 7. She also presented an overview of the MYN project to the neighborhood association presidents on November 15. Presently, PSAB members have received no indication from the City regarding their intent to assign staff or support a 2019 Emergency Preparedness Fair.

Teen Driver Safety: The Board reviewed and discussed the draft application form to apply to participate in the spring 2019 street survival training. Tom F stated that although an essay question has never been included before, he hopes it will produce a number of more serious applicants.

NEW BUSINESS

End of Year Report: The Chair reported he has incorporated the comments from Board members on the draft PSAB 2018 annual report and will submit it to the City following this meeting.

2019 Board Officers: Tom Freedland announced he is willing to accept another term as Chair if the City reappoints him to PSAB. Kris Duncan stated she is willing to assist as "recording secretary" to the extent it does not conflict with her duties as a caregiver to her elderly parents. She added she, too is subject to City reappointment. Elections will be held in January.

WLPD Presentation on Mental Health Services: Officer John Huntsman began his presentation by contrasting the lack of knowledge and understanding among officers of persons experiencing mental illness when he first hired out in the 1990's. Today, there are more training opportunities

and resources available for patrol officers. He described the cooperative relationship between WLPD and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Dept., which contains a Behavioral Health Unit (BHU). The BHU is comprised of three full-time mental health clinicians available to the Sheriff's Patrol Division seven days a week. If not already out on a Sheriff's call, BHU staff may assist local police departments such as West Linn, Milwaukie or Oregon City. The aim of the BHU is to divert individuals from expensive and unnecessary emergency room visits and incarceration.

Another important resource used by WLPD is Unity Behavioral Health Center in Portland. Unity was developed to fill a nearly 20-year void after the closure of Dammasch Hospital in Wilsonville. Even if Unity is in "red" (full) status, they have a policy to still accept a person in crisis if a police officer transports them there.

In terms of how a crisis call in West Linn is handled, the general procedure is for WLPD to respond first and make a safety assessment. If they determine it is safe for the BHU, WLPD will call them and request assistance to de-escalate the situation and/or intervene. In the case of those with a lengthy history of crisis cycles, WLPD may call the person's case manager if that information is known.

When asked about challenges and needs to improve the mental health crisis response system, both Chief Kruger and Officer Huntsman agreed that a larger BHU to ensure 24/7 service would be extremely helpful. At present, the BHU often must contend with vacancies even at its current staff level. Another Unity-type facility within Clackamas County would also help, but is highly unlikely. Kris Duncan suggested that there may be a role for PSAB members to advocate for higher BHU funding during the next County Budget Cycle.

STAFF UPDATES

WLPD Update: Chief Kruger reported that the new Captain is on board, but they are still down 3 police officers. A replacement for the retiring Code Enforcement Officer is expected to be hired this spring to cross train prior to the current Officer's departure in August.

TVFR Update: Robin Peters said TVFR sent 14 people to work the California fires. He said the devastation of the Paradise fire was comparable to a town like Tigard being wiped out. Robin also reported that Station 55 is helping a great deal to speed up response times now that trucks no longer have to climb so many hills. He noted that City Manager, Eileen Stein, participated in some firefighting training in October.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Duncan (PSAB member)