PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Lakewood Police Department
9401 Lakewood Drive SW
Lakewood, WA  98499

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Present: Sheri Badger, Julio Perez-Tanahashi, Bryan Thomas, Aaron Young and Alan Hart

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Excused: Renee Hanna, Lonnie Lai, Ray Dotson and Sam Ross

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Absent: none

City Councilmember Present: Marie Barth

Fire Department Staff Present: None

Lakewood Youth Council Present: Olga Legkun and Riki Takeuchi

Staff Present: Assistant Chief Mike Zaro and Committee Staff Support Christina James, Senior Office Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sheri Badger motioned to approve the September meeting minutes. All ayes; minutes were approved.
PUBLIC COMMENT

Linsey Singleton from Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Maternal Child Outreach Team asked about the graffiti she had been seeing around Lakewood, stating it seemed to be a lot lately. Discussion ensued. Assistant Chief Mike Zaro asked her, and all citizens, to call City Hall when they see graffiti on public property; the City will go out and remove it.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilmember Marie Barth welcomed the Youth Council members, asking if they would be the ones attending the PSAC meetings in future. Olga Legkun and Riki Takeuchi stated they were not sure, no decision had really been made regarding that; it was agreed that Olga and Riki would take the information back to the Youth Council and they would pick one or two people to attend the meetings regularly, rather than alternating.

Councilmember Marie Barth mentioned two issues which citizens had brought to her since last meeting. The first was a citizen’s concern over Homeland Security coming and taking over Lakewood in the event of a national disaster. Discussion ensued.

The second inquiry was regarding the City’s stance on marijuana stores. Councilmember Marie Barth had informed the citizen that the City didn’t have a stance at this point. Discussion ensued.

FIRE CHIEF COMMENTS

Handouts-September Alarm Summary Report
Colleen Adler was unable to attend, but provided the September Alarm Summary Report for perusal.

POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS

Handout-Crime and Incident Report (September 2013)
Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated he would answer any questions regarding the statistics. Discussion ensued.

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro discussed a recent case regarding a citizen carrying a gun, openly, on Clover Park Technical College grounds. It is not against the law to openly carry a handgun, but school security called 911. Our officers responded; the student recorded the entire encounter on his cell phone and posted it to youtube.com. Assistant Chief Zaro stated that our officers did a great job of handling the situation. Discussion ensued.

Bryan Thomas asked about the state receiving grant monies focusing on police working on car thefts or break-ins, wondering if we were getting any of that money. Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated that we have been a part of the Washington Auto-Theft Prevention Authority for 5 years now, though he wasn’t sure if that was what Bryan meant. They agreed that this was probably the same thing.
Assistant Chief Mike Zaro gave an update on the program we are trying to develop for the mentally ill call-outs, of which we have been receiving a larger number of lately and which was discussed last month. Assistant Chief Zaro stated that they are still working things out, putting a few final touches on it, and they will bring it to PSAC once it is done.

Bryan Thomas asked about the Food Drive. Assistant Chief Mike Zaro explained the partnership with Les Schwab and Q13 News. Discussion ensued.

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro discussed the 10 year anniversary for the Department and the hope that PSAC would be a part of the planning and events. More discussion will follow next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Members gave updates on the Neighborhood Association Meetings they attended. One issue that was discussed was people coming up to people’s houses and plugging their cell phones and other devices into their outside outlets—essentially “stealing” power. Another issue was squatters. Discussion ensued. Bryan Thomas discussed LASA’s move and new office space/shelter being built.

Bryan Thomas asked about the old Police Station over on 112th. Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated he wasn’t sure, but knew that the church next door to it had bought it and were planning something for the youth.

The Lakewood Police Department’s Use of Force Policy was discussed. A citizen wrote a letter concerned that the current Lakewood Police Policy did not say something, mirroring what the ACLU says, about “preservation of all life over use of force.” It was agreed that PSAC was the group to handle a citizen concern regarding LPD policies; Assistant Chief Mike Zaro also stated that our current policy meets all CALEA and WASPC Accreditation standards as well as mirroring case law. The citizen’s chief concern seemed to be that we didn’t have anything about valuing or protecting all life in our use of force policy, but the first line in our Mission Statement is that we will protect life and property. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that Joanna Nichols would send the Use of Force Policy to the members for their perusal. Sheri Badger moved to table the discussion until next month’s meeting in order to allow perusal and review of the Use of Force Policy. Motion seconded and approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

There were no further reports from board members or staff.
ADJOURNMENT

Aaron Young motioned to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Public Safety Advisory Committee

Attest:

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Bryan Thomas, Chair  Joanna Nichols / Secretary