CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members present: Lonnie Lai, Alan Hart, Bryan Thomas, Sam Ross, Ray Dotson and Renee Hanna

Public Safety Advisory Board Members absent: Aaron Young

Public Safety Advisory Board Members excused: Sheri Badger and Julio Perez-Tanahashi

City Councilmember Present: Marie Barth

Fire Department Staff Present: Assistant Fire Chief Karl Roth

Staff Present: Assistant Chief Mike Zaro and Committee Staff Support Brea Wolfe, Senior Office Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ray Dotson asked for a correction to the minutes to state that he had been “excused” from last months meeting, rather than “absent.” Alan Hart motioned to correct the minutes. All ayes; correction accepted. Alan Hart motioned to approve the corrected December meeting minutes. All ayes; minutes were approved.
PUBLIC COMMENT

Linsey Singleton stated she was working with Joanna Nichols on a time/date to give a presentation to the committee.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

City Council member Marie Barth discussed Mayor Douglas Richardson’s departure from the City Council and stated that there were a lot of exciting changes and growth coming to Lakewood.

Bryan Thomas asked about City Manager Andrew Neiditz’s appointment as South Sound 911’s Director and his imminent departure. Councilmember Marie Barth stated she had nothing new to share there, but maybe there would be more developments by the next meeting.

FIRE CHIEF COMMENTS

**Handout-December 2012 Alarm Summary Report**
Assistant Fire Chief Karl Roth went over the Fire Department’s statistics. Discussion ensued.

Assistant Fire Chief Karl Roth stated that Chief Sharp would be retiring about the middle of March of this year. There are three in-house applicants right now, and testing will begin in March for the new Chief.

Assistant Fire Chief Karl Roth stated that the new WPFR Fire Boat has arrived. WPFR has an agreement with Gig Harbor for its use, since they don’t have a Fire Boat, which will help offset the maintenance costs.

POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS

**Handout-Crime and Incident/Year End Report (November 2012)**
Assistant Chief Mike Zaro went over the crime statistics. Discussion ensued.

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated that the Department and City is expecting some type of litigation to proceed from the termination of Officer Brian Wurts, so we are unable to say much, but Assistant Chief Zaro wanted to reiterate that the decision to terminate him was made for the health of the entire department.

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated that we are on track for hiring; we are anticipating hiring 3 new officers this year. Bryan Thomas asked about taking marijuana use questions out of the background process. Assistant Chief Zaro stated that, for now, the Department will not change its standards on marijuana use for potential hires. Discussion ensued.

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated that Lakewood PD has entered into an agreement with City of DuPont to temporarily provide them with a Sergeant for supervisory purposes only. Discussion ensued.
NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alan Hart stated he felt that the Code Red/PC Alert systems were something we should look into more fully. He spoke with Lieutenant Steve Mauer, who researched it a bit more and stated that it would require grant monies to even begin implementing. Bryan Thomas agreed that he thought the Committee/City should look at implementing some type of alert system, as he felt it could be beneficial for warning citizens of in progress major incidents- Sandy Hook school shooting and the US Bank shooting were given as examples. Discussion ensued.

Renee Hanna suggested we use and/or learn more about PC Alert, as it is already in place and could be something we could just bounce off of, rather than starting from scratch and costing more money. Assistant Chief Mike Zaro stated that with South Sound 911 just starting, this was a good time to look into it. It was agreed that learning more about the current, in place, systems (PC Alert, Code Red) as well as other options, would be the next logical step. Bryan Thomas and Joanna Nichols will work on making that happen for the February meeting.

Bryan Thomas reiterated that he felt that the committee agreed that Emergency Preparedness should the committee’s number one priority for this year, with the PC Alert/Code Red system being a part of that. Mr. Thomas reminded everyone that Chris Badger, Colleen Adler and Mary Dodsworth would be speaking at next month’s meeting about Emergency Preparedness/Management and asked if the committee has anything specific they wanted the speakers to cover while they were here. PC Alert/Code Red was mentioned again, as well as ways to get the community involved, with some emphasis on way for PSAC, specifically to get involved. Mr. Thomas agreed that Joanna Nichols would email these to the speakers.

Bryan Thomas stated that the second focus the committee seemed interested in becoming involved with was the diversity in hiring and he asked Assistant Chief Mike Zaro if he, or Chief Bret Farrar, could perhaps have something prepared for March’s meeting regarding how PSAC could help them, to include the current hiring/recruiting process.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Assistant Chief Mike Zaro gave an update regarding the in-car cameras. The program is up and running and Assistant Chief Zaro gave an example of how these cameras have already helped the Department in regards to a recent officer involved shooting call. Discussion ensued.

Bryan Thomas stated that he feels PSAC needs to get back into being involved in the Neighborhood meetings so we have some reports, and put the PSAC face out into the community, as well.
Lonnie Lai informed everyone of the free Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration taking place on January 19th beginning at 10 a.m. at the Sharon McGavick center.

ADJOURNMENT

Alan Hart motioned to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Public Safety Advisory Committee

Bryan Thomas, Chair

Attest:

Joanna Nichols / Secretary