

CLEMSON POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2023

Members in Attendance: Sandy Edge, Lisa Robinson, Kevin Dull, Chief Campos, Winton Hunter, Riley Wright, Pablo Unda, Jacquie Myers, Elaine Masceri, Ashby Williams

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Madam Chair Lisa Robinson at 6:00pm.

Roll Call: Roll was called by Madam Chair Lisa Robinson. All members present.

Vote for Chair and Co-Chair Positions: Motion for Madam Chair Lisa Robinson to remain Chair for the board. Elaine Masceri nominated Kevin Dull for Co-Chair position. Seconded by Winton Hunter. Jacquie Myers abstained from voting. Motions passed.

Approval of Agenda: Chief Campos asked to add agenda item to recognize Eunice Lehmacher's service as a former member of the board. Riley made motion to approve with addition, Kevin Dull seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of previous meeting minutes – Dec. 7, 2023: No changes noted. Riley made a motion to approve, seconded by Winton Hunter, vote approved.

Citizen Comments: No citizens present. Elaine Masceri presented a concern that was brought to her about vehicle noise in the form of a letter from Harvey Gold that was also given to council. Subject recently had surgery and could not attend. Pablo Unda read an email sent to him from a citizen in ref to vehicle noise from Amy Hood. Eunice Lehmacher reminded us that the chief was going to mention anything brought up as a complaint. Chief Campos advised that the PD has also received complaints about the noise. We do get apartment noise complaints frequently. Hopefully will have better numbers to share once the computer issues are fixed. Elaine had a council member ask about better enforcement as well. Lisa asked if this is something we could address under crime review since it's a recurring issue.

Presentation: Rick Cramer – Clemson Fire Chief: Chief Cramer has been the fire chief since March 2021. He provided a history of the department. Under city contract, the University Fire Dept is responsible for all fire suppression in the city. Deputy Fire Chief is responsible for daily operations. Run a 3 shift rotation, 24 hour shifts. 24 on and 48 off. Station 2 on Issaqueena Trl has a community room the city can rent. Hired full time community risk reduction officer that starts on Feb. 1st. Offering CPR and AED courses to the community. Fire suppression, ems services, fire prevention, Haz-mat, Technical Rescue, Special Event Coverage. EMS services. Firemen are dual certified in fire and EMS, at a minimum of EMT basic. Hazardous materials incident response service. They do have a water response team and have a boat with certified divers. Assist Clemson Forestry with controlled burns. Do a lot of training, have full time training officer. Clemson University Community Connect service - lets community members input information that may be important during an emergency just rolled out in the last week or two. (link to service sent to DL-PAB contacts) 45 fire fighters (15 per shift at full capacity - 11 at a minimum between both stations) Member Myers asked about the false alarm statistics and how it ties up staffing. Chief Campos said that they are mostly faulty alarm systems and the city enacted an ordinance to charge them to force them to get those things fixed. Enforcement would fall to the fire marshal who works for the city planning office and he is tracking that info to charge people. Chief Campos let them know the link to Community Connect was emailed. Lisa asked if they partner with any other agencies or organizations to help people in need with smoke detectors etc. They do partner with the Red Cross. Try to do a sweep after a fire to neighborhoods and do inspections for free and help install smoke detectors etc. Also work with the apartment complexes to educate tenants. Elaine asked if apt complexes are required to have their apts inspected. Chief Cramer said it is not a requirement but they will do it if asked. Chief Campos said that the Fire Marshal does inspections for a different reason to look for extinguishers etc. in rental properties. Kevin Dull asked what they are anticipating in terms of growth with city expansion etc. Ultimately would like 19 per shift but don't anticipate needing a new station soon. Myers asked about

alternative exit plans with some new things being built only having one way in or out. Chief Cramer will provide Chief Campos with a copy of the presentation to email to the board members.

Department Status / Staffing Review: Chief Campos provided a synopsis of current matters with the Department.

- 2 in academy
- 1 that didn't pass state test and had to be let go
- 1 vacancy that we have candidates in background for now
- Got one new dispatcher filling our vacancy
- May have another Dispatcher vacancy as one may be going to road
- selection process for Sgt. (have one on leave and need acting Sgt.)
 - Amanda Mills (SRO) was chosen
- Now looking to fill SRO position while she is doing that

Crime Review: Chief Campos gave a rundown of the crime statistics for Nov & December.

- Nov - no aggravated assaults
- 5 break ins to buildings
- 6 break in to vehicles
- 6 drug investigations
- 3 dui
- 10 disorderly
- 81 traffic stops - reason for lower # is the computer issues. Could not do it on computer and had to go to Columbia to get paper tickets.
- Dec had 3 aggravated assaults
- 3 break ins to buildings
- 3 thefts from vehicles
- 9 drug violations
- 4 DUI arrests
- 10 public intoxication cases
- 283 traffic stops

Overall crime statistics are down as well from 2022. Also decrease in drug case #'s but increase in drug \$ and property seized due to nature of larger cases worked by narcotics investigator.

Lisa asked about accident near first citizens that resulted in a fatality, was that an accident or something about the intersection. Chief Campos advised that is University property and they handled the accident. Sandy Edge asked about drug cases and that an article in the paper mentioned higher # of drug cases in Pickens County CC - you can't see the numbers right away b/c those cases are complex and the numbers won't show until the case is closed.

Elaine asked about a shooting near Columbo's. Chief Campos advised it is still under investigation but appears to be an isolated incident. No one was shot and no one reported be shot at but it is still actively being investigated. University is governed under Cleary Act that requires them to notify if there is an activity that occurs in an area that may affect the people in their jurisdiction. Lisa asked about the loud vehicle and muffler, etc. concerns, is that something being addressed in a different way. Chief Campos advised that we continue to receive them and officers are reminded bi-weekly to enforce those. In the last two months we had no citations issued for those. There are still a lot of logistical issues with citations. Madam Chair Robinson wanted to clarify if an officer has to physically be present and witness a traffic or noise violation. Chief Campos advised that state does not allow for video or photos to be used for citations at this time because the owner of the vehicle may not be the driver of the vehicle.

Requested Presentations: Sandy Edge mentioned having the new city attorney do a presentation once he has time to settle in.

Board Member Open Discussion: Kevin Dull mentioned a traffic study on Old Stone Church Rd. from Old Pendleton to US 76 for traffic. Chief Campos stated that is slated to be reconstructed when the subdivision begins so in the next two years or so it will be redesigned. Believe the design has been chosen already after a discussion with community members.

Recognition of Eunice Lehmacher for being a valued member of the board. Welcome to two newest members.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Riley Wright, seconded by Kevin Dull. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Thursday, February 22, 2024, Council Chambers, Clemson City Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Karla Jones, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police, City of Clemson